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The Treadmill

Emma Montgomery

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Observation

Stacy W. Johnson

The Treadmill

Emma Montgomery

My legs are aching.
I wheeze with each ragged breath.
My lungs are screaming.

Are the runners around me
struggling as well?
Am I alone in this
turbulent moment in time?

The world is a treadmill
on a speed that our fragile legs
cannot match.
The controls are broken.
No one can shut it off.
Momentum spirals out of control

If we don't keep up
we'll fall
My fellow runners are
stumbling around me.
Others are falling
never to get back on
the treadmill

Will it ever slow down
Will some omnipotent creation
runners pray and scream to
take pity on us
Or do our cries fall on deaf ears
We continue to flounder
Stuck but ever moving
on this forsaken treadmill