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Atlas

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ATLAS

Amy Myrick

I wish that I
like Atlas
held the world on my back.

Then I could set it down
and stop its spinning for an hour or two.
End the dizzying circles of madness
and allow the calming stillness
to settle in my bones.

I would stretch out my aching arms and
breathe cooling air deep into my chest,
sit down among the stars and
stare into the vast nothingness.

And when at last,
I, the great titan Atlas,
had realized
that even I was small and insignificant
among the scope of
stars and
planets and
space,

I would pick up the Earth again and
hoist that mighty weight
with the knowledge

It is not too much to bear.

