


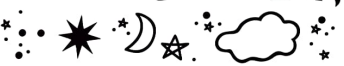






# A NEIGHBOR'S BLESSING

by SHANNAN MARTIN

MAY YOU GO OUT INTO THIS BEWILDERING WORLD  
WARMED BY THE FIRE OF POSSIBILITY.   
MAY YOU COME TO SEE WALKING SHOES, SOUP SPOONS,  
MINIVANS, AND WRINKLED HANDS AS   
WORTHY TOOLS FOR CONNECTION.   
MAY YOUR HEART STAY TENDER, YOUR HANDS STAY OPEN,  
AND YOUR DOOR STAY EASY ON ITS HINGES.   
MAY YOU FIND COMFORT IN THE MOON, ART IN THE CLOUDS,  
AND GOODNESS IN THE FACES AROUND YOU.   
MAY YOU GATHER, LISTEN, AND HOPE RELENTLESSLY.   
AND MAY YOU NEVER GIVE UP ON THE LIVING LIGHT   
OF BELONGING, RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE.   
GRACE AND PEACE AND GUMPTION BE WITH YOU. 