

LEAVE THE WORLD IN FLAMES

the fourth of july
sets the sky on fire

as if the pacific northwest
hadn't just gone through
three days in a row
of the record highest heat
of the cascade region.

every summer
this just keeps happening

forest fires spread smoke
covering our sun

& we seattleites
are found
wishing for rain.

this is just something
we have gotten used to

& this isn't the first time
my home has become national news

jeff bezos & elon musk
leave the world in flames

to go to space
& meanwhile

my brother quits his second
amazon job

i fail yet another
chain restaurant job interview

because as much as i
recycle & use my bike

jeff bezos is
about to become the world's first
trillionaire

he has destroyed this city
even more than it already was
stomping on the backs of
factory workers
pissing in bottles
& panicking in boxes

& marx says
there is no ethical consumption
under late capitalism

& i agree
but yet i am so powerless

this system forces me to cycle into
consumption & overwork

when all i want
is rain.

—Mercury-Marvin Sunderland