



10-15-1989

Late Summer in Oklahoma

Marj McAlister

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Recommended Citation

McAlister, Marj (1989) "Late Summer in Oklahoma," *Westview*: Vol. 9 : Iss. 1 , Article 29.
Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/westview/vol9/iss1/29>

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LATE SUMMER IN OKLAHOMA

By Marj McAlister

This morning is not the same as yesterday and day
before and day before. . .

The sounds are nearer, sharper.

The air feels thinner, cooler.

My eyes can see farther, clearer.

My tongue tastes a refreshing breeze.

I touch the golden gate—unfamiliarily cool.

As I walk down the path, the flowers salute, rather
than droop. The birds are friskier. Missy jumps twice
as high as usual.

The end of summer is near; my pulse quickens after weeks of doldrums.

Summer gave a good performance, but I do not applaud
too loudly. She will reappear for a few encores, but I
welcome autumn in all her finery, parading front and center.

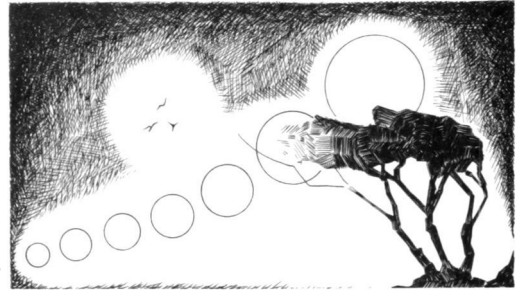


Illustration by Jerry Toppah

MARJ MCALISTER, a free-lance writer from Oklahoma City, is an active member of the Oklahoma City Writers, Inc., the Poetry Society of Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Writers Federation, Inc.

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