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## Swing Dancing

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# Swing Dancing

-By Rick Plant

You told me it was called "swing dance"  
those gyroscopic loops you made  
while circling the ballroom floor  
orbiting the table where with smiles  
but leaden feet I sat, swaying to  
the local western New Year's band  
the glitter ball twirling above us  
like some bright and tawdry star.

And that is how it feels again  
swing-dancing in the semi-dark  
without that space or nervous noise  
but holding hands and smiling.  
Under the shifting clatter of the stars  
the world grows tight around us  
whirling breathless, hot and dizzy  
past that place we started from.

*(RICK PLANT, a former member of the SOSU  
Language Arts faculty and WESTVIEW editorial staff, currently  
teaches at Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Virginia )* ●

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