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## A Special Night

Pat Kourt

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vicarious experience

*The midway at the fair unwraps memories of . . . strings of flickering, flashing lights promising risky surprises.*  
*a kaleidoscope of reeling rides and mechanical merry-go-round music.*  
*corn dogs, cotton candy, worn darts, and cheap aluminum jewelry.*  
*babbling, monotonous barkers crying for anxious, gullible takers.*  
*wide-eyed children laughing with purple snow-cone stickiness.*  
*a side show of tiger ladies and sword-swallowing he-men.*  
*hand-holding sweethearts oblivious of the noisy, shoving crowd.*  
*fifth-grade boys sneaking a few forbidden chokes on stolen cigarettes.*  
*brief rests among pesty, swarming flies and greasy, steamy concessions.*

*soft, cool breezes soothing the warm excitement of a special night.*

## A Special Night

By Pat Kourt

*PAT KOURT — creative-writing teacher, librarian, and free-lance writer from Thomas — is a SOSU alumna. This poem is another of her many valued contributions to WESTVIEW.*

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