



national 2023
poetry month

Don't Waste the Day

by Okey Chenoweth

Don't waste the day
thinking about the night
though the coming guests be unbearably exciting
though they light up all your trees
though they ring all your bells
though they repave Main Street
and line it with litter bucket.
The night will come
and with it stars,
but you will have missed the dawn,
flowers on the lawn
the mailman
epiphanies of solitude
and grass green as love
snowslides
windfalls
vapors rising
absolute frost
ultimate ice
and tumbling sunbathers
who allow oceans to touch them
where people never can.