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Nights of Hurricane Sandy

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Nights of Hurricane Sandy

Writing by candle light
makes language softer,
romantic, eyestrain
a pittance to pay
for the felicitous phrase
until read after power
is restored with fluorescent
coffee and burnt expectations.

Friendly candle flame
creates illusions
of being Cyrano
pouring out one's soul
with a quill pen
to Roxanne from Greenpoint
surrounded by shadows
dancing to my words,

or as men and women
of a certain age
prefer candle-lit cafes
to mask their wrinkles
what we yearn to see
(or not) is vastly
more important than the truth.
so let electricity
be left to writers
without imagination.

-Saul Zachary
New York, New York