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# Staying There

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## Staying There

The trick is to remember  
 That the world moves  
 Without your help.  
 This is particularly difficult  
 On clear nights when light  
 From a distant star pierces  
 You through. As you stand  
 Fixed and transfixed by the beam  
 That has opened the black night  
 Like a pomegranate, you,  
 Now more than ever attached  
 To the earth, deprived even  
 Of your customary scurry-  
 Ing on and scratching in the soil,  
 You may be tempted  
 To unwind earth's orbit  
 That you may ride to the  
 Star on the end of a thread.  
 Don't. The spinning planet,  
 All by itself, is hurtling  
 Through space at a rate  
 Great enough to satisfy  
 Any reasonable desire  
 For speed and, night  
 And day, coils its  
 Seasons around a star.

—Kathryn R. Ashworth