

by: David Clink • for your 2017 Aurora Award consideration (Poem/Song category)

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## If Train "A" Leaves Chicago

*If train "A" leaves Chicago traveling 100 MPH,  
and train "B" leaves New York traveling 150 MPH,  
and the distance between the two cities is 600 miles,  
how far from New York will it be when the two trains meet?*

Like that math problem I could never figure out,  
sometimes I think we are those trains,

meeting some distance from New York,  
before we saw that flower seller on West 28<sup>th</sup> Street

whose rain-soaked thoughts gathered briefly in her hands,  
me seeing you looking at yourself in the mirrored hallway

on the way to the movie theatre, unsure of yourself,  
how the evening would go, the short time we met

playing out like the time an award winner has  
to say what needs to be said before the music starts.