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## Three Poems by Joseph E. Arechavala

### Stairs

I remember running  
up and down stairs  
in my childhood  
My way of flying  
As I jumped  
two  
or three  
at a time  
Now I'm slower,  
sensibly taking  
one step  
to another  
Climbing higher more work now  
down so much easier  
down so much easier

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### snowflake

each snowflake falling was a reminder  
  
each circular trajectory, each impact, each  
individual earthquake of ice against ground  
  
all here, all perfect for the twelve minutes  
  
before destruction, before sameness  
conquers crystalline perfection  
  
before heat dissolves the intricate into chaos  
  
like the steam curling from my coffee  
on its own trajectory into cloud and wind  
  
circling in its own orbit of the sun

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### the mud god

the mud god is my new god,  
because it never expects adoration  
never demands virgin crimson  
nor a glorious edifice

the mud god is my new god,  
because it never clutches at gold  
never crusades against the infidel  
nor sends souls beneath it

the mud god is my new god

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because it only wants rain

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**Joseph E. Arechavala** is a married father of two boys who has lived in Camden County, NJ all his life, dealing daily with his and his sons' challenges of Asperger's Syndrome. A graduate of Rutgers University Camden in 2009 with a BA in English, he looks for inspiration anywhere he can find it, writing about any subject He has been writing since 1998, and has had several poems, essays, and stories published online, in local newspapers, and in national print publications, such as *Hudson View*, *Skyline*, and *Pearl*. His vampire novel *Darkness Persists* has just been accepted for publication by Passionate Writer Press.

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