

ISSN: 2582 6352

ISSUE 4.3 Sept-2022



**THE UNIVERSE Journal**

A Quarterly Peer-Reviewed Open Access Multidisciplinary e-Journal

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Editor-in-chief: C.P.Pathakk

An International Quarterly Refereed Open Access e-Journal

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**ISSN** INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARD  
SERIAL  
NUMBER  
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

**ISSN: 2582-6352**

## Judas Window

Davis Varghese

A sea of sand so limerent.  
Stalks its languid prey under a midsummer sun.

A pitiful camel and its sun-stroked captain.  
Elements of pathos, on the verge.  
Pursued blatantly by an army of rolling dunes.

Wisps of green,  
simmer on the horizon.

As he rubs his eyes in excitement,  
the greens,  
bisected by a syzygy of phospenes,  
is an assurance,  
an invitation.

The captain explodes,  
and the camel rockets, charging through the sand,  
hapless and broken.

The magic ends as the oasis melts,  
and the duo sinks,  
thirsty and shaken.

He drops, then retreats, dagger drawn.

A sidewinder follows, unabashedly limerent.

The desert is waiting.

Each, eyeing a kill.

From a Judas window,

of their own making.