



Image from Puerto Viejo Satellite

John P. Kristofco

all these tropic poems

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exotic colors in the morning

they make you think
it is the only place
the sun finds as it rises,
that lovers lose their light in shanties,
their souls in tired alleys
where winter and the rust eclipse
the colors of brittle grass
clawing for its essence
on the slag-bedraggled hills:

Cahuita and its terra cotta tiles,
fronds, ferns, bamboo orchids,
scent of gallo pinto,
as it deepens like

turquoise of the sea

John P. Kristofco has published poetry and short stories in *Folio*, *Rattle*, *Cimarron Review*, *Blueline*, *Slant*, *Fourth River*, *Chiron Review*, *Snowy Egret*, *Poem*, and many other publications. He has published three poetry chapbooks; recently, *The Timekeeper's Garden* (The Orchard Street Press, orchpress.com). A fourth, *Portraits From the Pilgrimage*, is scheduled to appear in the fall of 2018.