

Sounds Like the City Limits  
By Jillian Soto

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*A still image is projected onto a white wall. It is a representation of a vast landscape of green hills with many trees in the distance. In the left half of the frame stands a telephone pole. The image remains for the duration of the performance.*

*[AUDIO TRACK 1—VOICE 1:26]*

I stepped onto the escalator in a downward direction.  
The periphery of the corridor I was being mobilized through appeared hazy.

What was in front of me appeared clear and determined.  
I questioned for a moment where I was actually headed.

In order to visually comprehend velocity, I needed to see it.

*[RECITE LIVE 00:38]*

Because I cannot grab onto a bullet once it has been set upon its mission through space without severe consequences.  
I cannot embrace a torpedo or missile.  
I constructed a series of barriers to help me understand.

As the projectile hit and progressed through each successive barrier, I could see the space materialize.

It is going fast. It is going faster.  
It is slowing down.  
It has stopped.

It is now lodged in the ground—nose first.

It is now lodged in between my eleventh and twelfth rib.

*[AUDIO TRACK 2—RECORDED CROWD YELLING 0:04]*

*[AUDIO TRACK 3—VOICE 1:29]*

As I slept, I could here the intermittent sounds of people screaming who were riding the roller coaster down at the pier.

It sounded like mostly women screaming. Young ladies.

There was a pattern to the sounds that matched the construction of the roller coaster, so that each successive dip of the coaster had the same pattern of squeals and roars no matter who was riding it.

Different sets of people made the same sounds at the same times all afternoon.

*[AUDIO TRACK 4—HARMONICA 6:12]*

*[AUDIO TRACK 5—VOICE 1:42]*

The picture illustrated this for me.

On the right was a torpedo, which had been fired at a slight upward angle.

This caused it to arc upward as it traveled through the testing field, overshooting the first barrier entirely, hitting the second, and third, and diving below the fourth, with two out of the four targets hit.

The diagram illustrated that there was a right way and a wrong way to fire a projectile so that it can travel the farthest distance.

The diagram illustrated that there was a wrong way and a right way to fire a projectile so that it can travel the farthest distance, contain the most power, and reach its target.

The picture illustrated this for me. On the right was a torpedo, which had been fired—which had been misfired, at a slight up ward angle. This caused it to arc upward exponentially as it traveled through the testing field, overshooting the first barrier entirely, hitting the second and third, and diving below the fourth with two of the four targets hit.

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