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**Justin D. Garrison**

*An American Four Seasons*

I

Spring rouses the bear.  
We create worlds from forests,  
Rocks, soil, and dreams.

II

Summer sun shines down  
On the fruits of our labor.  
Civilization.

III

Autumn wind fans flames  
That consume the worlds we made.  
Dying embers cool.

IV

Winter snow covers  
Twisted steel and cracked marble.  
A new season waits.

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JUSTIN D. GARRISON earned his doctorate in politics at the Catholic University of America, where he currently works and teaches.