

## Arc of Anticipation

Jeral Williams

On a family holiday, tie match —  
    the final cornhole toss,  
the first time in Wrigley Field, Cubs leading —  
    a long fly ball in the top of the ninth,  
fourth quarter for the Kansas City Chiefs, losing by six —  
    a pass from the twenty,  
Iowa in the Rose Bowl, leading by two —  
    an opponent's field goal from the 48,  
in game six, Denver Nuggets trailing —  
    a three-point shot for overtime,  
the Masters, with a one stroke lead —  
    a long iron over water on 16,  
    a drive to the crest of the hill on 17,  
    and a putt rolling the green's contour on 18.

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**Jeral Williams** is a retired professor of psychology and late-in-life poet. In addition to individual poems, he has published one collection, *Sunset Without Dawn* (Negative Capability Press, 2022).