

## Filtered Vision Aristeidis Kleiotis

Seeing the city through a lens;  
I cannot quite discern the  
colorful vibrations or the  
vibrant sounds, and why does  
mud come through the  
ceiling of my flat  
Life-

Seeing the city through a lens;  
By the window I am standing  
and I observe what do I observe  
I observe the withered flowers that  
sprout dead out of the pavement  
Reaching for the sky  
catching their breath-  
Zoom in on their skin, and you  
May hear the silent whispers  
of the cells crying out for help:  
“H e l p p l e a s e”  
But, I cannot help, I have  
grown roots in the city, and I  
Am grounded.  
I am shedding cement tears  
And I blink and my eyes stay  
Still and fr ee ze-

Seeing the city through a lens;  
I am out and about in the city  
My roots confess:  
“We are taken out, we are to rot  
We are crawling out of the tar pot”  
Out in the streets as I was saying,  
A woman’s oily and slimy hair  
Obstructs my sight, before  
my eyes stands an abomination -or not-  
“Gross” I utter, I intend to head to  
Another direction  
But my eyes’  
direction is inter-diverted;  
I see a new world

Seeing the city through a lens;  
I’m lying on my bed and I’m  
thinking of all the surprises that  
this city holds for me like the  
soft rain that falls from the ceiling of my  
room, calling for me to  
“Wake up!”

Seeing the city through a lens;  
Oh birdies, thank you for the lilies  
And Lana’s roses from the first floor that  
have grown so tall that  
reached my window, I come closer and  
I see Stella petting her  
child, oh how she caresses its cheeks  
I zoom in on the main window of  
Apartment 58, above Stella’s, Selene  
is rehearsing her wedding proposal to Endymion:  
“A dream I have of you  
It comes true in Malibu  
A love letter of blue  
I write for my honey beau”  
Oh she is such a poet at heart!  
I blink my eyes and my wet orbs say  
“I c r y in bliss!”

Seeing the city through a lens;  
I am strolling down my  
favorite street: “Honeymoon” in name  
First thing I see “Barrie’s Flower Shop”  
I greet and he treats me with a rose  
I walk till the end of the first block  
and I bump into Ms. Serenity and I  
hand her the rose, she thanks me  
And in return she gives me a cocoa candy from  
Darien’s candy shop, I uncover it  
Treasure it in my mouth and turn right  
to meet the Summer Breeze:  
“Some are blown away  
But others are here to stay”