Falling Free

They are yellow, red, orange, green, and brown.

They are maroon. Rust, ochre, umber, goldenrod,

burnt sienna, and sunshine.

They are paprika, turmeric, ginger,

cinnamon, cardamom, and mace.

They are mustard, ketchup, barbeque sauce, and salsa.

They are melted processed cheese product

atop blue tortilla chips with avocado

purple olives red onion and

electric orange habaneros.

They are every color in a carrot cake.

They are a swirl of melted milk chocolate and pureed raspberries.

They are Mother Nature performing a striptease.

These autumn leaves.

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Bryan Franco

Bryan Franco is a 55-year-old gay, Jewish poet/spoken word performer from Brunswick, Maine. He competed with the Portland Maine Rhythmic Cypher slam team in the 2014 National Poetry Slam in Oakland, California. He has performed on stage at The Nuyorican Poet Café in New York City. His poetry is published in the US, Australia, Ireland, and Scotland and has featured for poetry events and podcasts in the US, Canada, England, Ireland, and Scotland. He hosts Café Generalissimo Open Mic, is a member of Beardo Bards of the Bardo, painter, sculptor, gardener, and culinary genius. In November 2021, his book EVERYTHING I THINK IS ALL IN MY MIND was published by Read or Green Books.