

How To Make A Universe

... a universe ... toroidal in its topology.
Wendy Howard

I lost my neck gaiter, must have left it
on my seat after the poetry reading.
I suspect someone has taken it home,
now enjoys a warmer neck in winter.

Neck gaiter. A fleece scarf *sans* loose
ends, a turtleneck without the shirt.
A double-layered collar, a cowl;
tubular turtlefur, a toroidal throat coat.

Unsettled, annoyed by yet another loss,
I drove I-40 to find a fabric store,
bought 5/8 yard of premium fleece,
midnight blue, and made a replacement.

Here's what you do, this is the pattern:
Cut a rectangle 10 inches by 20
from the field of fabric, be sure to match
your length to the direction of stretch.

Fold long edges along the horizontal,
right sides together; stitch top and bottom,
you produce a tube. Reach inside; with
right sides together, fold along the vertical.
Align raw edges, stitch the perimeter —
almost but not quite all the circle.

Turn the fabric inside out through the oval
you've allowed and see a rose blooming,
a raincloud being born, a galaxy waltzing
through the room. Big bang? I don't think so.
The seamstress is saying "Ta-da!"

To finish, trim loose ends of thread.
The scissors my mother gave me
read "Joy" next to the slotted screw
binding the blades together.