



Flecks of free-floating collagen

cruise the ocean of my eye,
tiny sailboats with squiggly lines,

sails puffy, curved and full-blown.
An optical hallucination for some.

For me, a vision test for my muse:

a strand of cobweb, unraveled, playing
hide-and-seek with my inquisitive gaze;
a long-tailed pollywog, darting

to the periphery of my vision when
I focus on what can't be focused on;
a blurred comet, flashing its tail

across my darkness, when I'm angled
toward something bright in the night;
a spermatozoon thrashing its tail,

desperate in its futile search
for a welcoming egg,

lost in the wrong ocean.

Clemens Schoenebeck

Mr. Schoenebeck's address is: 100 Bay
View Drive, Swampscott, MA 01907. E-mail:
schoenebeck@comcast.net.