

Ukraine

A country needs a closed sky
like a home needs a roof:
it is unfathomable that missiles
can rain down on you at home,
just as it is absurd to imagine
snow falling in your bedroom.

But "to close the sky"
would have been to risk
open war with nuclear-armed Russia,
and Europe and the US declined.

Sophie Pinkham,
New York Review of Books, December 7, 2023