

B R A D K A V O

Silencing Khe Sanh

First, he positioned both cars so their headlights formed

a perfect cross,
road and driveway, with him
in its center.

Left to idle, their steady choking
softened
the junglesilence of his walking-dreams

so he could build
bunkbeds for his sons
in the middle of the
road.

He'd be done by midnight,
he told his wife,
himself,
the nightvoices.

Across town, his father

bundled up on windy winter nights, still
fighting

Bastogne-cold,

but here, in the lighted crossfire, he felt

Lifted

from deltas, hills, tunnels,

night.

Just before midnight,

a neighbor called and complained to the police, who came

and turned off his headlights.

BRAD KAVO is a graduate of Penn State University, where he focused on British and American literature. He is currently a high school English teacher in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he has taught literary analysis and writing for the past nine years. His poetry has appeared in *Lines + Stars*, *War, Literature & the Arts* (WLA), and *Grey Sparrow Journal*.