Fourth Of July -- 1962

the sky fell down this morning splashing around the swimming-pool I was annoyed having just tidied up the patio but my wife smiled shook her head in fact don't you realize the sky fell down? yes, and look at the mess it made! I'm a patient man so I spread the canvas chairs and awnings to dry only trouble was the sun had fallen on the roof of our house and was caught behind the chimney nothing would dry in that vacuous greyness I grumbled the damn luck I have would make a saint swear sh! she said it could have been worse call the firemen before the roof starts burning I'm burning! I guess I was sharp I was planning on a swim how can I swim? with all those pieces of sky filling the pool I'll probably cut myself into an American Flag

Something Clean About A Bullet

in the casual weekend war a technician will push a button and return to his science-fiction paperback or perhaps a blond-haired bomber-pilot will drop a pot of meltiness or nerve-gas or bacteria and return to his suburban home to play with his young daughter

I want the one who.'s destined to stop my breathing to do it neatly and with passion looking into my eyes as he squeezes the trigger

-- Ottone M. Riccio