



...january 28, 2024...

**today you had a birthday  
seventy plus nine –  
so many anniversaries  
hidden in this one –**

**we went out to dinner –  
malaysian – because  
thirty years ago you worked  
in a malaysian world –**

**the waitresses and waiters  
gifted our cuisine  
with conversations sharing  
a panoply of worlds –**

**today we shared your birthday  
with memories and dreams  
and conversations merging  
the stories we become.**

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