

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

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SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025

THE WEATHER
Today, morning drizzle and fog, breezy, rain later, high 63. Tonight, flooding, thunderstorms may cause high 57. Tomorrow, cloudy, high 57. Weather map is on Page 22.
Prices in Canada may be higher \$6.00

Beijing Worries U.S. May Force Trade Squeeze

Fearing Partners Will Have to Pick a Side

By KEITH BRADSHAW

BEIJING — Officials in Beijing are increasingly worried that President Trump's tariffs on Mexico may be the start of a broad campaign to force developing countries around the world to choose between the world to Ever since Mr. Trump imposed extensive tariffs on goods from China during his first term, companies have been investing heavily in countries like Mexico, Vietnam and Thailand to assemble Chinese components into goods for shipment to the United States. Doing final assembly in these countries offered a back door to the U.S. market regardless of trade frictions between Washington and Beijing.

China's trade surplus with the United States has shrunk by almost a third since 2018. But Chinese exports to developing countries have skyrocketed. China now sells 11 times as much to Mexico as China buys from it. Those sales include Chinese auto parts assembled in Mexico in cars destined for dealerships in the United States.

Feith Shimila Murungu

The Powerful

Adams Case Is Blueprint For Courting a P...

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025

Columns & Commentary

JAMELLE BOUIE

How Far Gone Are We?

The question of the day is whether the United States is embroiled in a constitutional crisis. Consider the circumstances. Congress has essentially surrendered its power of the purse to an unelected co-president. The actual president has asserted a unilateral executive authority so powerful and far-reaching that it threatens the republican character of the American political system.

But as critics of the crisis view note, for all of his lawbreaking, transgression and overreach, the president has yet to take the steps that would clearly mark a constitutional crisis — openly defying a lower court order of more significance, a judgment of the Supreme Court.

One thing the language of crisis captures, however, is the degree to which the American political system is under a tremendous amount of stress. And to the extent that stress threatens the integrity of the constitutional order, it is because the American system is, and has been, in a profound state of disrepair. If we are in or approaching a constitutional crisis, it has been a long time coming.

In 2009, the legal scholars Jack M. Balkin and Sanford Levinson published an article on constitutional crises titled, aptly, "Constitutional Crises."

"When constitutional design functions properly — even if people strongly disagree with and threaten each other — the crisis," Balkin and Levinson explain, "the other hand, when the system of constitutional design breaks down, either people abandon it or because it is taken off of the proverbial cliff, disarray and threats take on a special urgency that serves the name of 'crisis.'"

From here, Balkin and Levinson offer a typology of democratic constitutional crises. There is the "Type 1" crisis in which leaders have publicly claimed to suspend features of the Constitution.

A typology of constitutional crises and constitutional

to preserve the overall social contract and meet the exigencies of the moment.

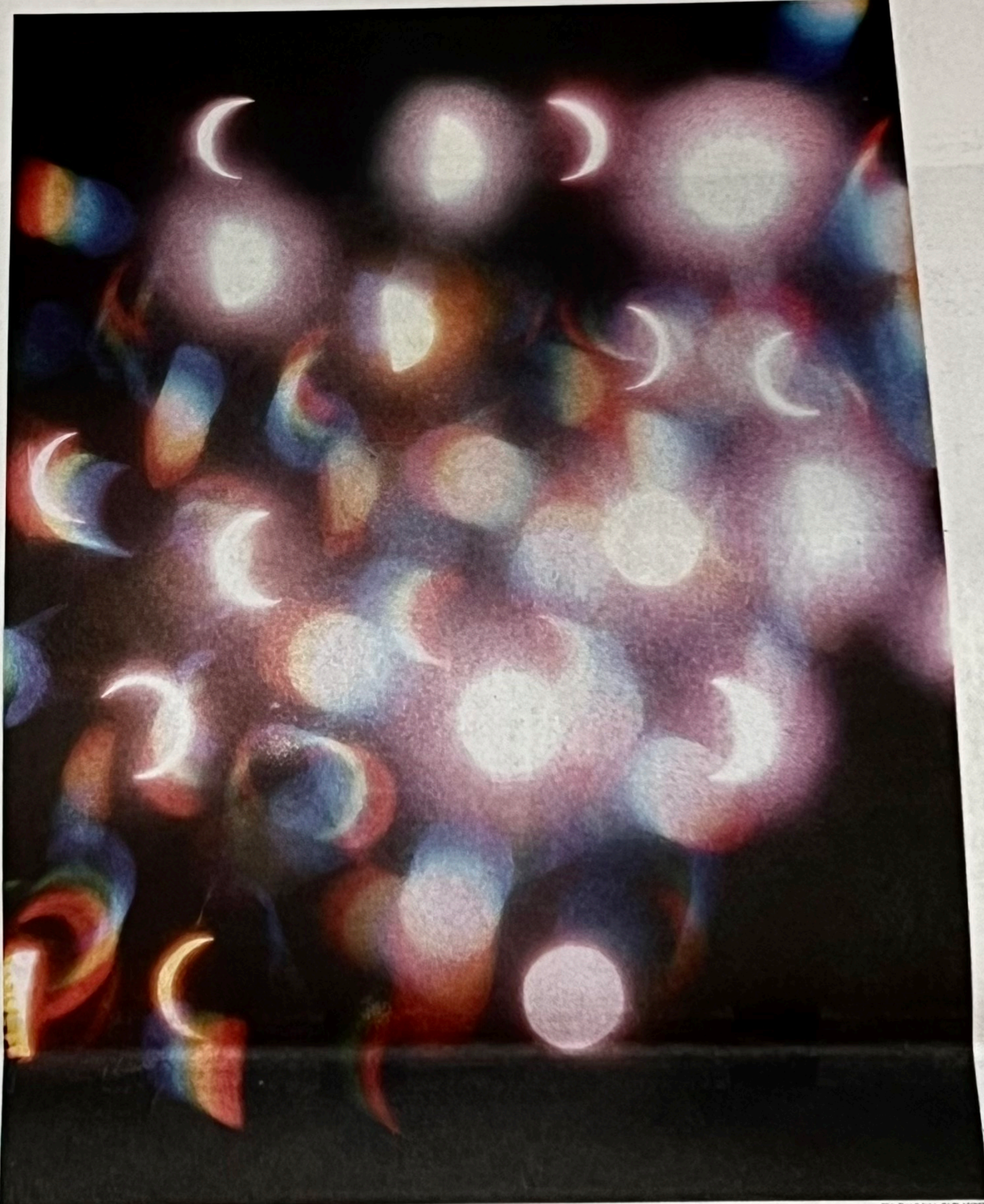
In the "Type 2" crisis, politicians do not abandon the Constitution but refuse to break with a falling order. The third and final category of constitutional crisis that Balkin and Levinson discussed involves a situation in which all relevant actors all proclaim their fidelity but "disagree about what the Constitution requires and about the appropriate degree of power."

Balkin followed up on this typology of constitutional crises with a book that he evocatively termed "The Constitution in Crisis." If a constitutional crisis is then constitutional rot is a chronic illness. It is, Balkin writes, "a condition of constitutional rot that can take over a long period."

You may, at this late date, be asking yourself about norms, but it is true that democracies depend on vibrant, lively Constitutional rot begins to deteriorate. It's not that officials reject the public interest of the financial backers, when they dress public problems in a nihilistic embrace of the health of the political system. Officials reject any and all power and try to insulate themselves from accountability, democracy.

Each dynamic of constitutional government...

In Development: New works at the intersection of art, news and life.



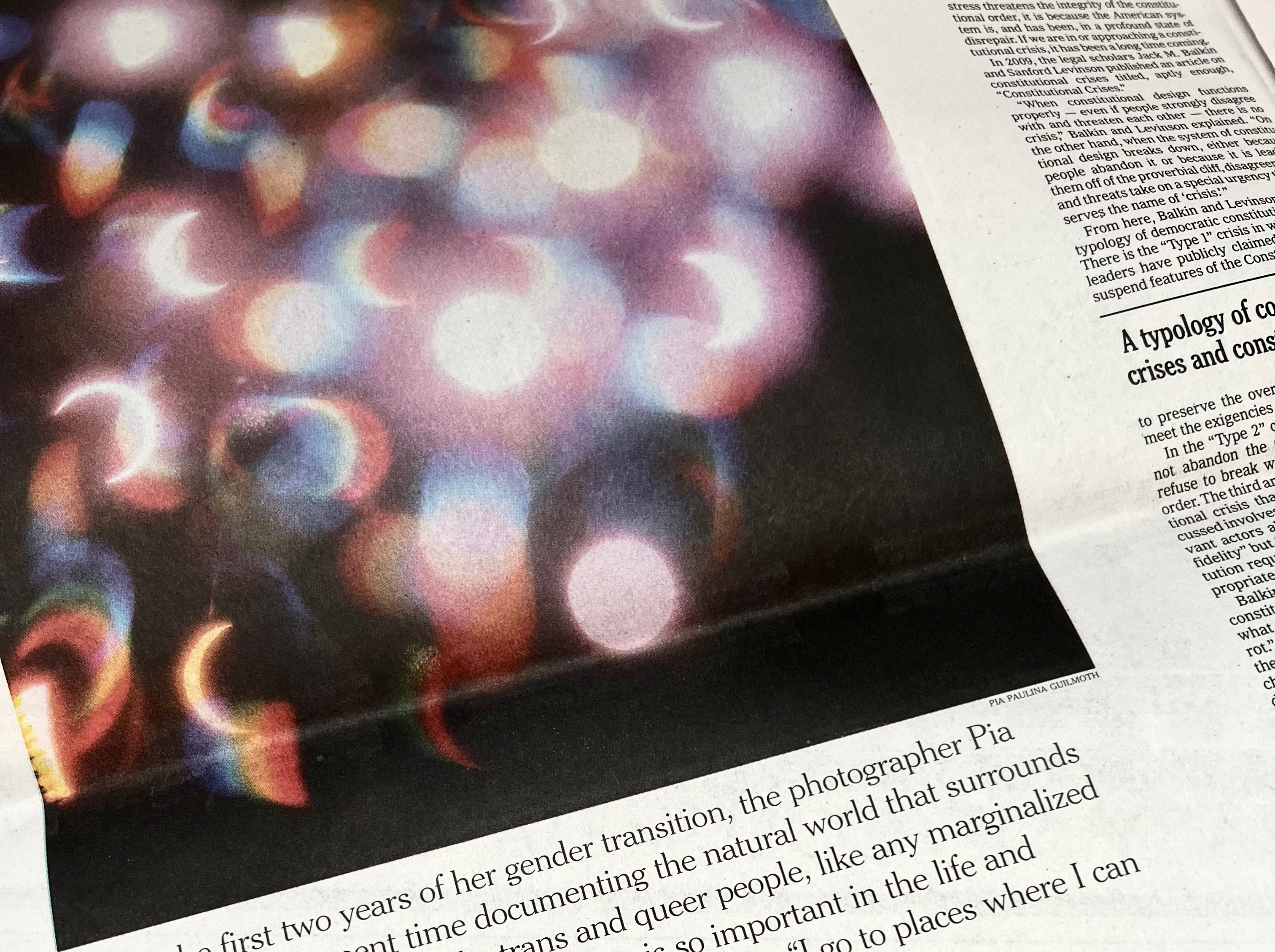
PIA PAULINA GUILMOTH

During the first two years of her gender transition, the photographer Pia Paulina Guilmoth spent time documenting the natural world that surrounds her home in rural Maine. "For trans and queer people, like any marginalized community, the access to beauty and joy is so important in the life and longevity of our communities," said Ms. Guilmoth. "I go to places where I can photograph the moon and feel very safe."

Footnotes: Mind the Gap



LISTEN (Lilla Ledbetter) WATCH (JEC)



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JANIK SÖLLNER

LISTEN 'Lilly Ledbetter'

An Oct. 17, 2024, episode of the podcast "The Journal" tells the story of Lilly Ledbetter, a businesswoman and activist who fought for gender equality in the workplace. It also features a conversation with the reporter Lauren Weber about the persistence of the gender pay gap.

WATCH 'LFG'

This 2021 documentary focuses on the landmark suit filed by the U.S. women's national soccer team against the U.S. Soccer Federation for wage discrimination, which resulted in a \$1.2 billion settlement. The film pledges to fight for all a