



Issue 1.7  
July 2019

# HUMAN/KIND

Journal of Topical & Contemporary  
Japanese Short-forms & Art



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# SPECIAL ISSUE

*featuring*

works culled from the poems of  
Mary Oliver

# HUMAN/KIND

Journal of Topical and Contemporary  
Japanese Short-forms and Art

Issue 1.7  
July 2019

Founder/Chief Editor: Robin Anna Smith

Assistant Editors:

Christine Taylor

Shloka Shankar

Aparna Pathak

Cover Art: *Imaginary Map 2*  
by Fabio Sassi

*Special thanks to Mark Gilbert for his assistance with proofreading.*

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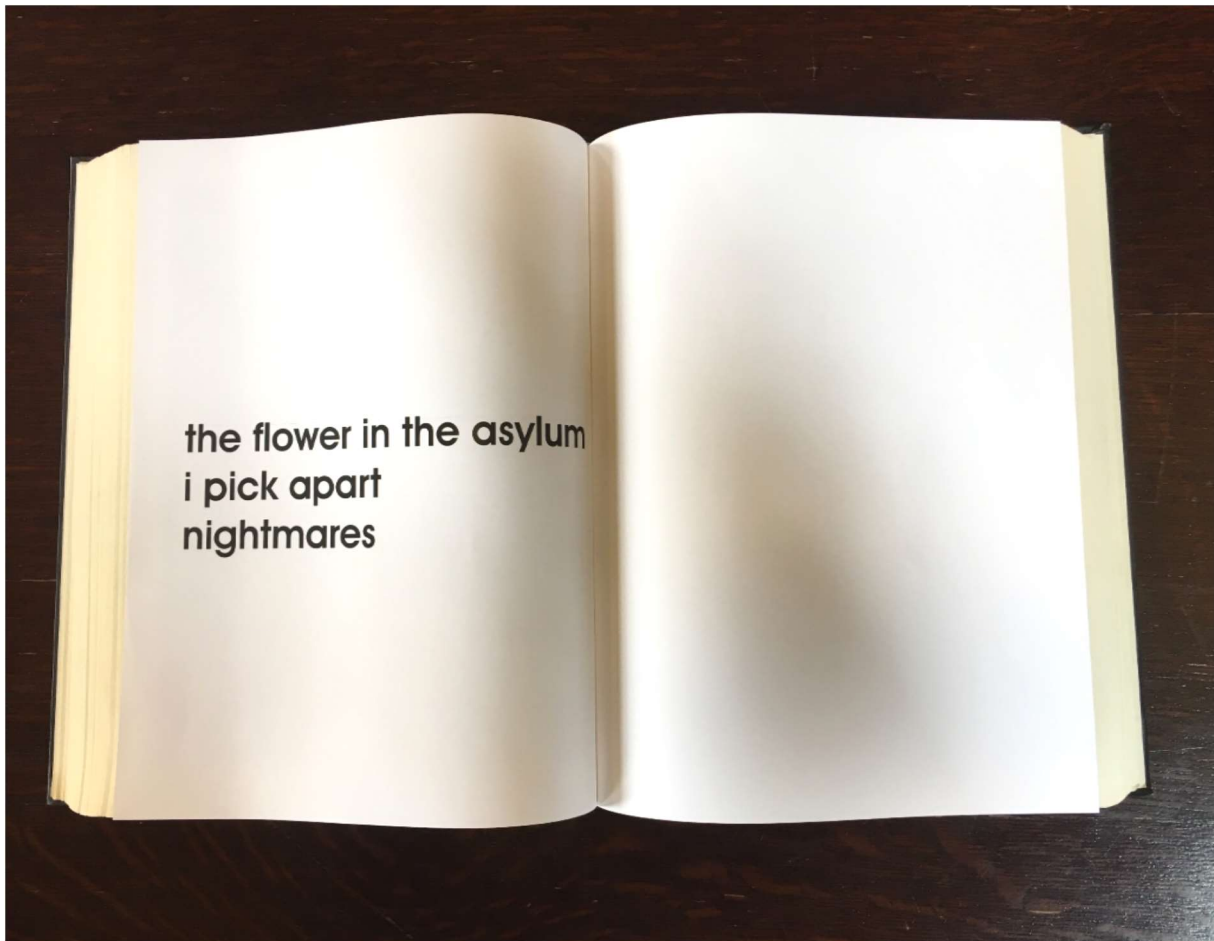
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*Imaginary Map 2*

**Fabio Sassi**





the flower in the asylum  
i pick apart  
nightmares

**Rich Schilling**

. . . so I just stood there, inside the jaw of nothing

a collection  
of doorknobs

*so far  
no name for*

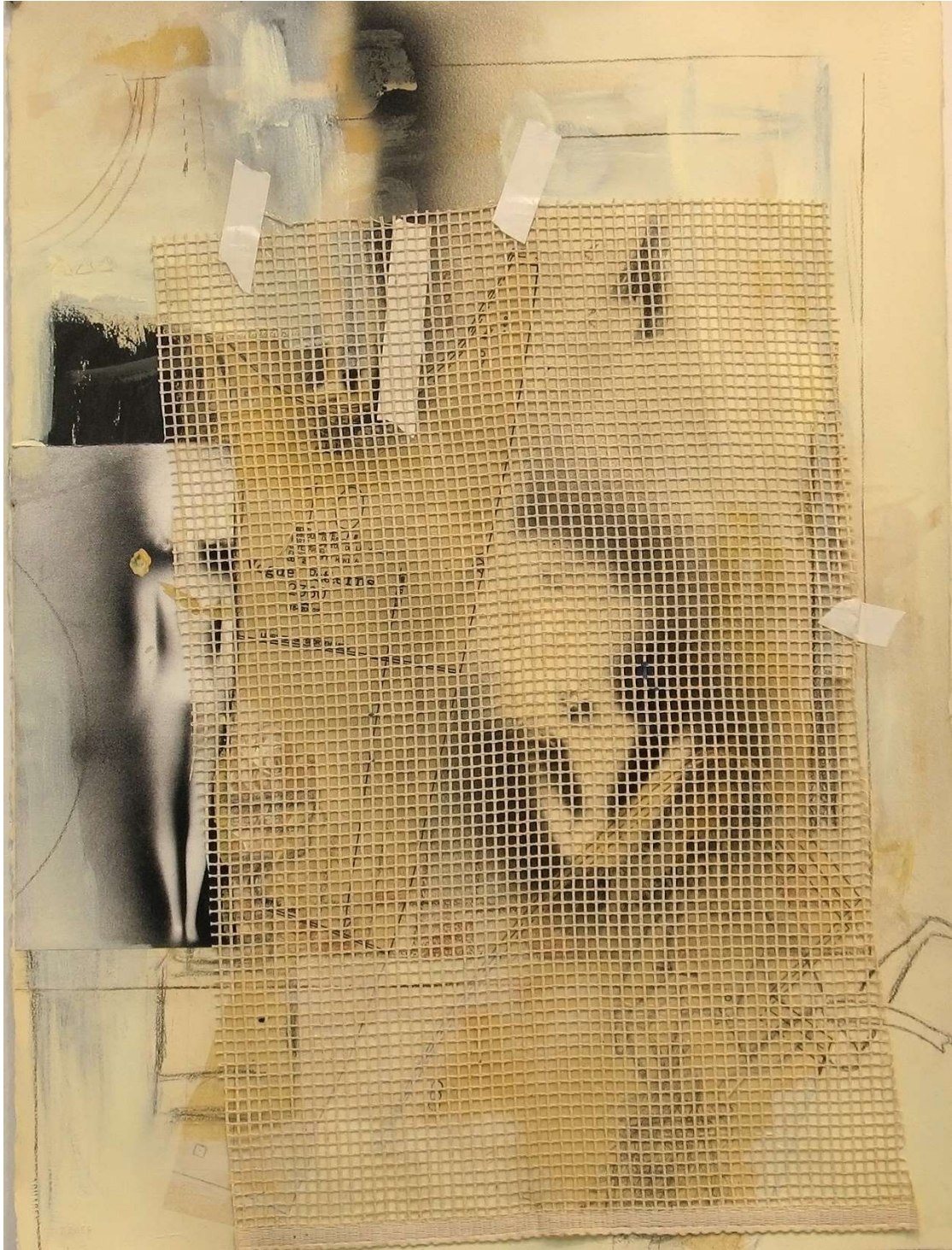
and nowhere

*the black mirrors*

to go

*in the wilderness  
of wit*

***-Shloka Shankar***



*Feminine Transcriptions 2*

**Olga Alexander**

asleep in white flowers my porous body done with roots

***-Lucy Whitehead***

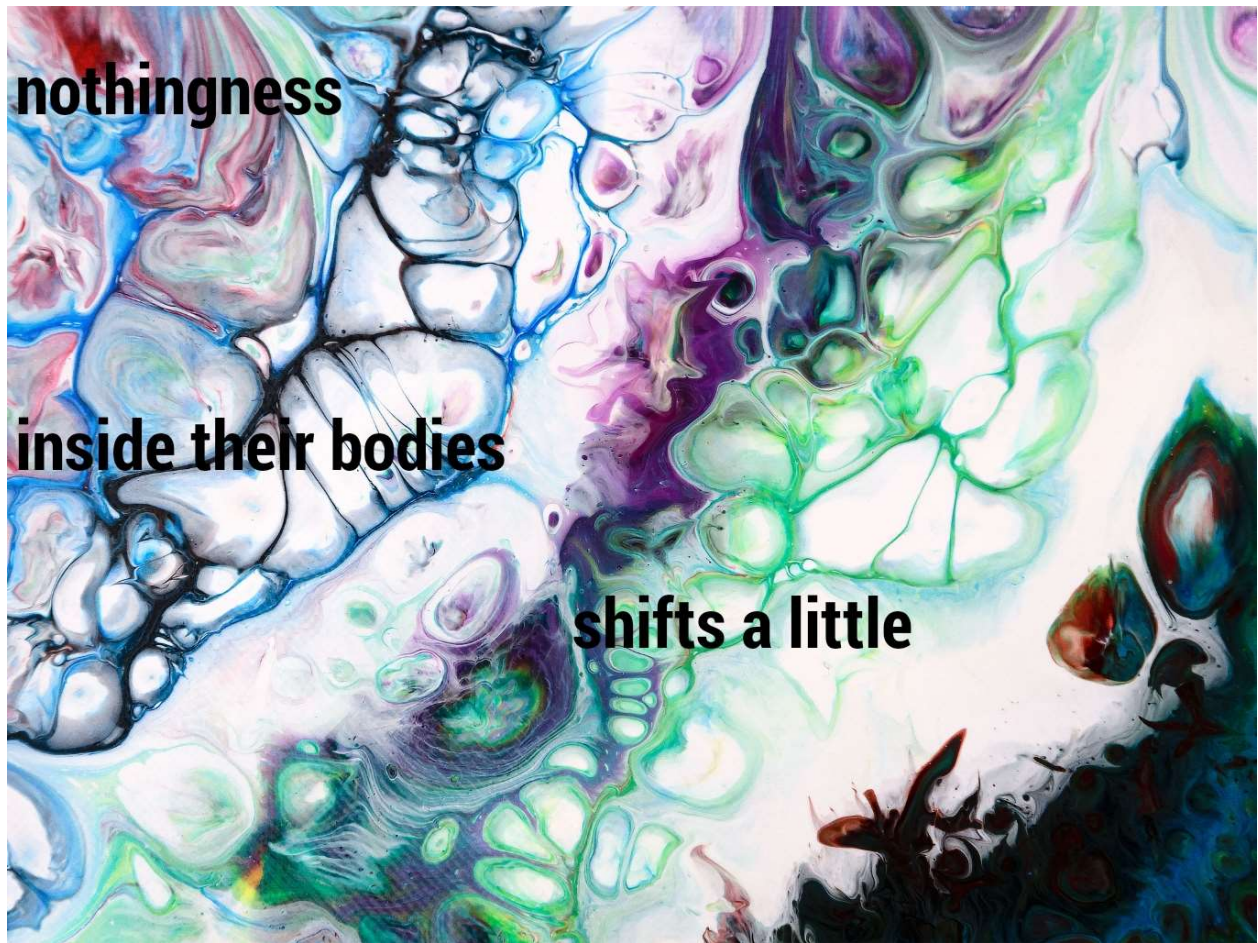
long black branches  
of other lives  
your mournful voice

***-Sheila Sondik***

garden sparrows fading my body into the morning

***-John McManus***





Vandana Parashar

the seizure of yesterday sometimes a red parrot

**-Réka Nyitrai**

that heavy-weight's punch  
around the bone –  
Florida nap

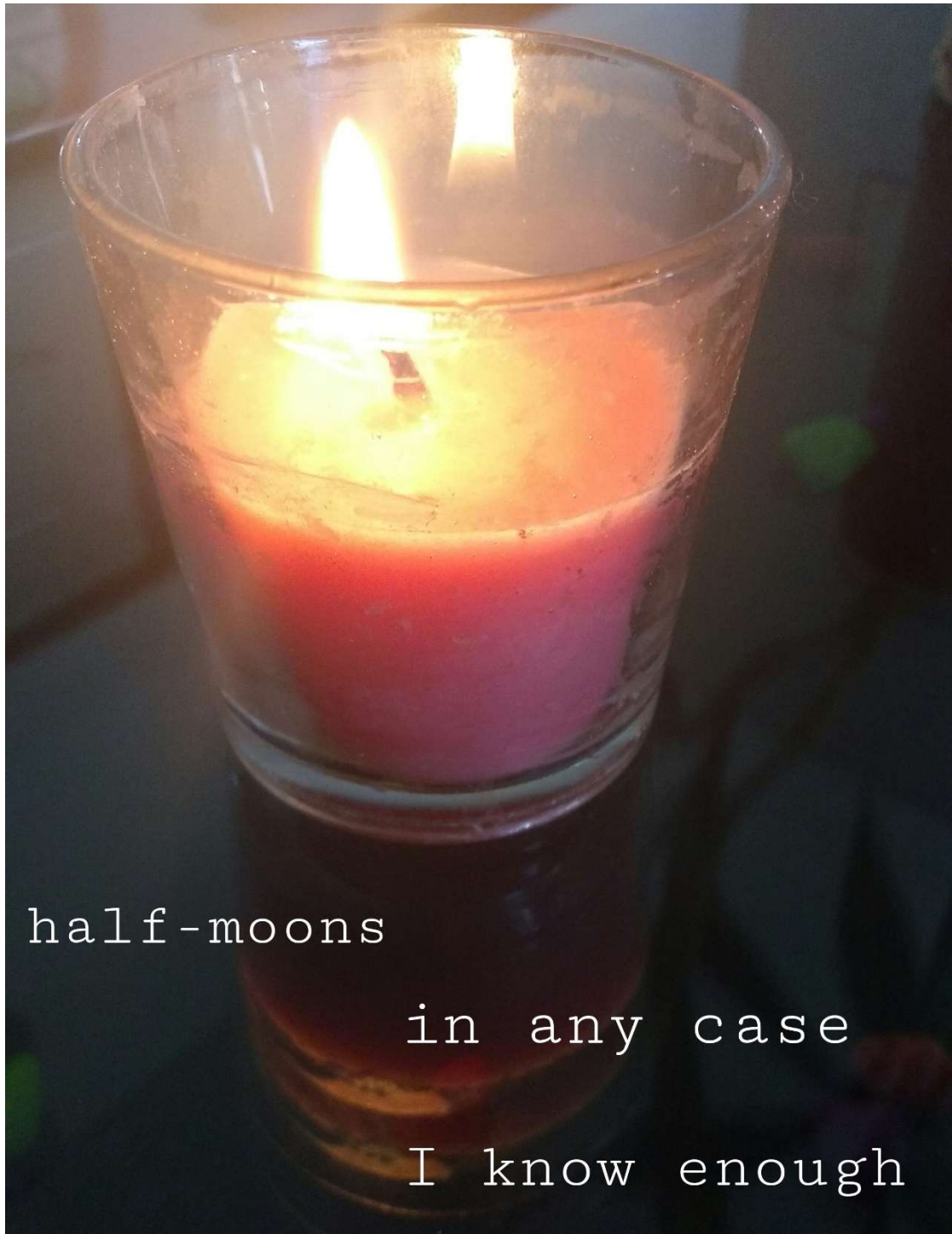
**-Susan Burch**

first fish I ever caught in my throat bone regret

**-Kit Pancoast Nagamura**

I have flown  
from the window of myself  
ships of clouds

**-David J Kelly**



Aparna Pathak

a cloud  
pressed against the open door

I remember

how I walked away  
only to fly home to myself  
not yet a god

*-Samar Ghose*





Debbie Strange

stroke by  
stroke my  
mother's swim to shore

***-Kit Pancoast Nagamura***

the sick woman  
a sword inside  
her laughter

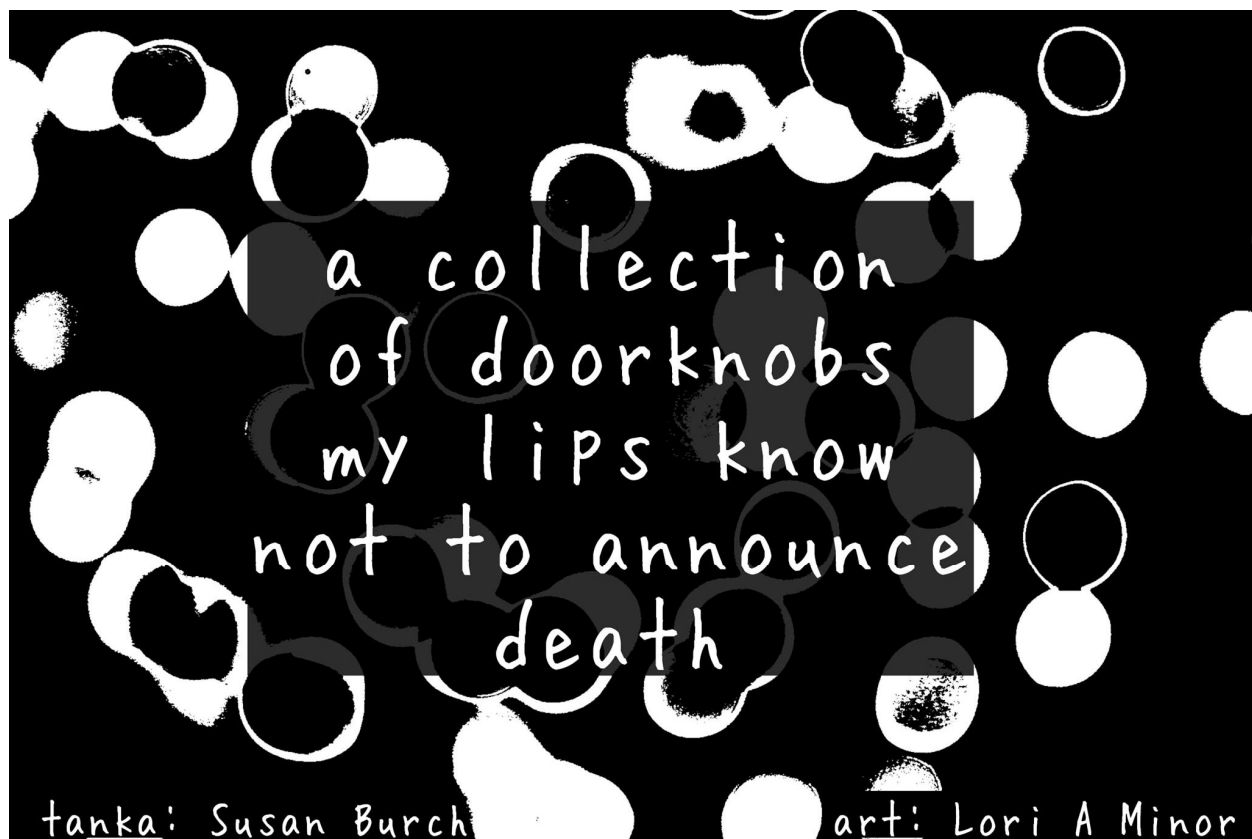
***-John McManus***

sharpen the silence and its music

***-Patti Niehoff***

on a knife-tip I swallow my prayers

***-Lucy Whitehead***



**Susan Burch & Lori A Minor**

I was thinking this:

I don't know where prayers go,  
so I just listened

then a wren  
began to sing,  
drenched in enthusiasm

*-Phoebe Woofter*





Robin Anna Smith

songs of birds the world goes on breaking rules

***-Laurie Kolp***

an old farmer  
in the sleeves of night  
rearranges silence

***-Goran Gatalica***

yes,  
lambs forever bow their heads

***-Réka Nyitrai***



Christine Taylor





### *Feminine Transcriptions 3*

**Olga Alexander**



scribbling on a café napkin

white flowers bow to the earth  
and then into the sky

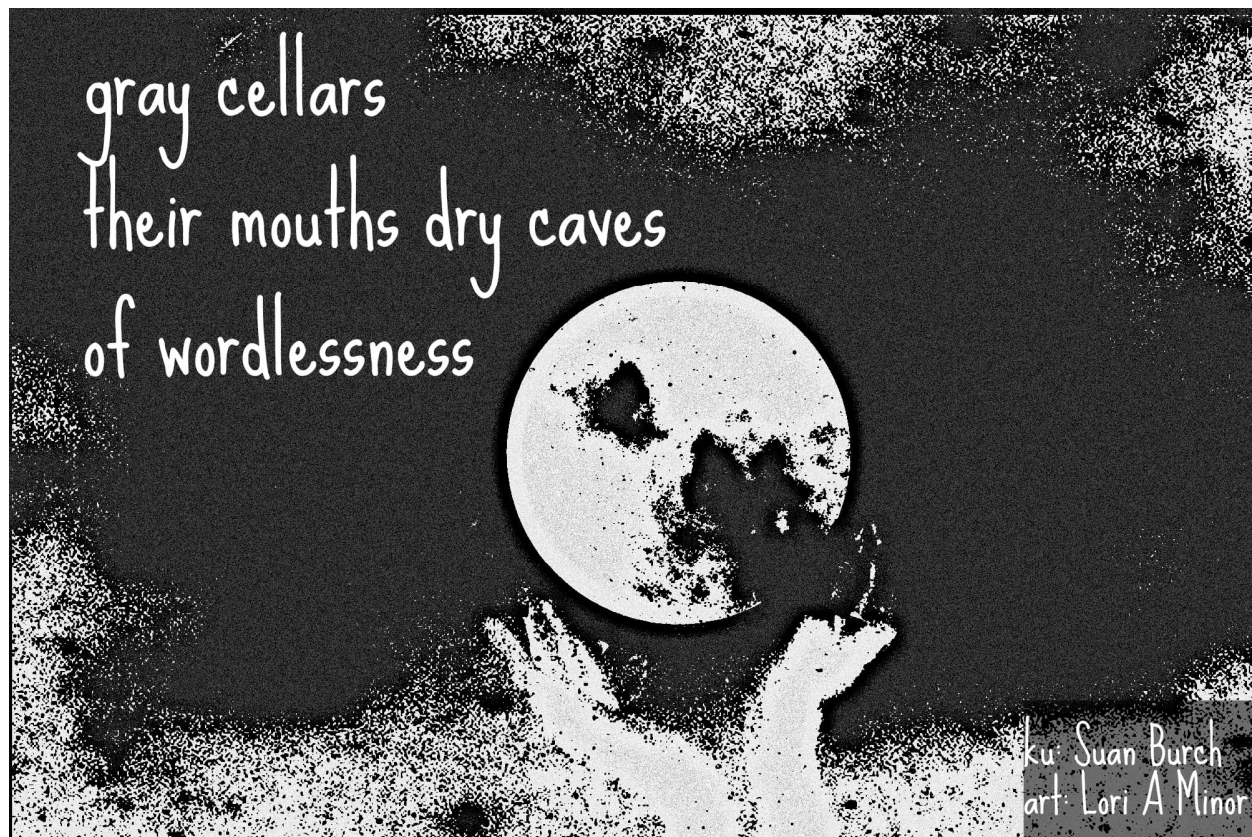
my pen in the air  
I have work to do  
so I listen

*-Laurie Kolp*



*Imaginary Map 1*

**Fabio Sassi**



**Susan Burch & Lori A Minor**

early snow whether I am ready or not the silence

*-Lynne Rees*

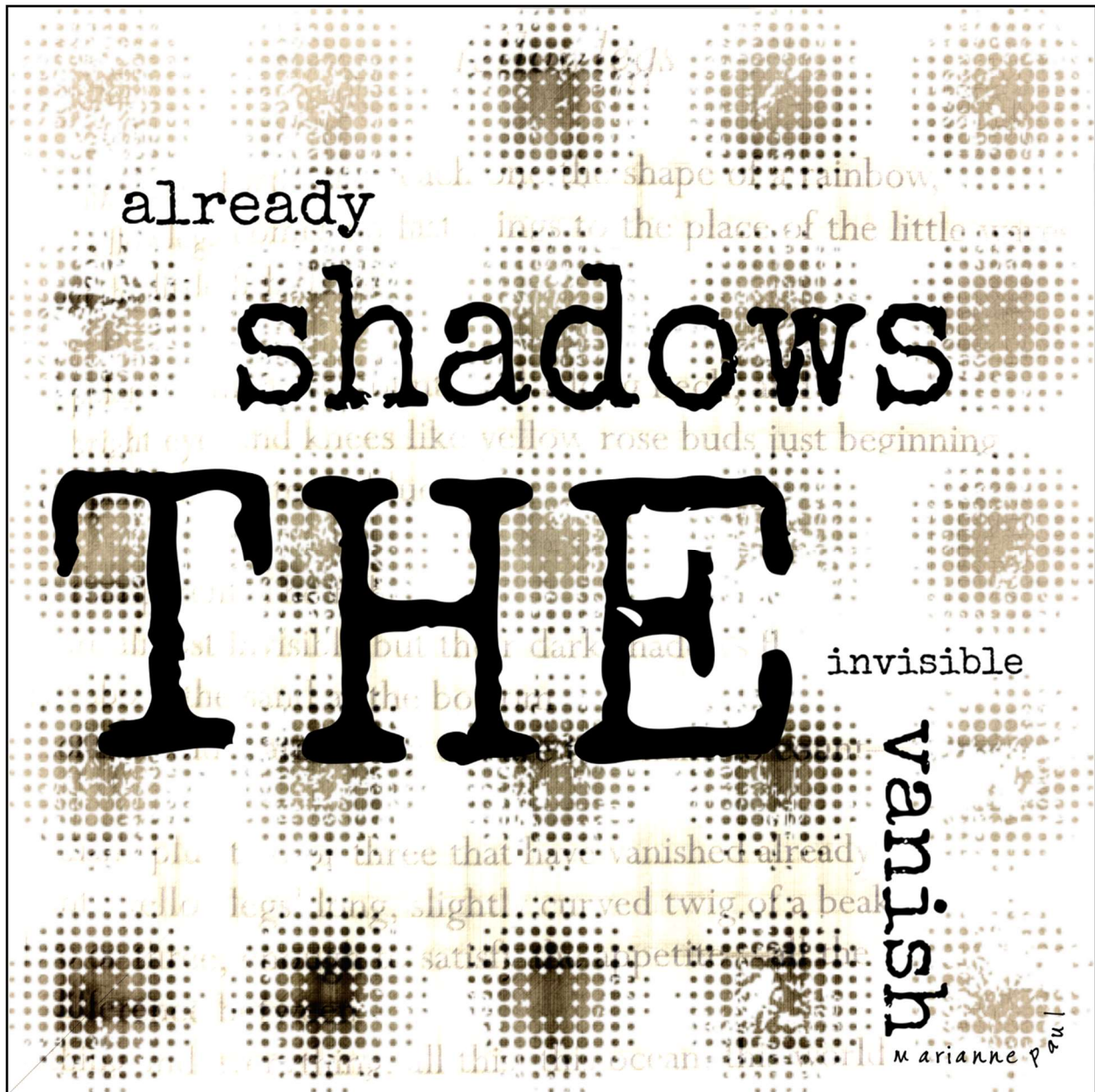
white orchard —  
breaking new snow  
with wild feet

*-Bill Waters*

wrapped in a tree your eyes licking up shade

*-Laurie Kolp*



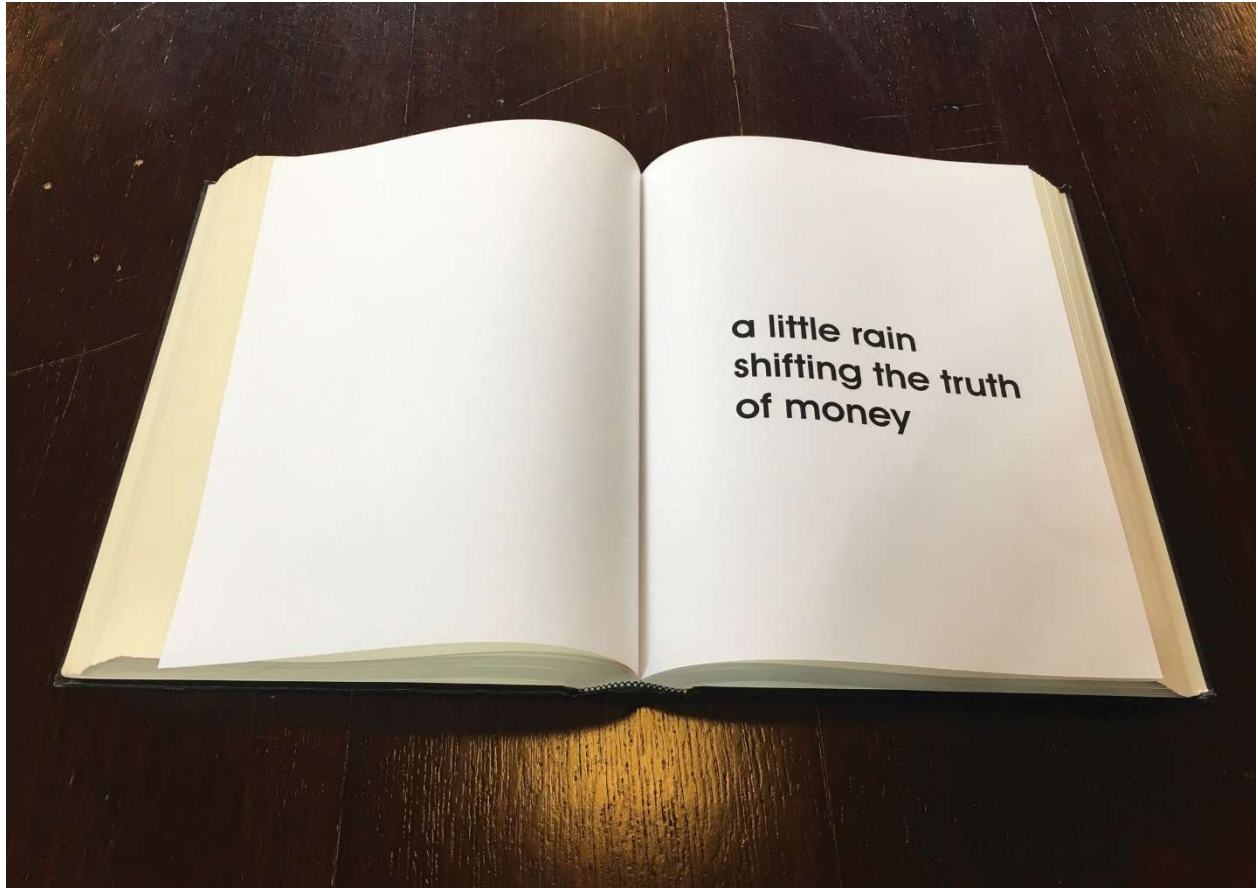


Marianne Paul

the sun  
after the long winter . . .  
stories  
more beautiful  
than answers

***-Bill Waters***





**Rich Schilling**

# BIOGRAPHIES

**Olga Alexander** is a mixed media painter, installation artist, and jewelry designer of the Nodes Collection of sculptural jewelry. Her work is inspired by science, fashion, and architecture. Samples of her work may be found at: [www.nodescollection.com](http://www.nodescollection.com) and [www.artslant.com/global/artists/show/80386-olga-alexander](http://www.artslant.com/global/artists/show/80386-olga-alexander).

**Susan Burch** is a good egg.

**Goran Gatalica** Born in Virovitica, Croatia, 1982, Goran Gatalica got both physics and chemistry degrees from the University of Zagreb, and proceeded directly to a PhD program after graduation. He has published poetry, haiku, and prose in literary magazines, journals, and anthologies. He is a member of the Croatian Writers' Association.

**Samar Ghose** lives in Perth, Western Australia with his wife and two adult daughters. He is enamoured of the haiku genre and its related forms. He enjoys the appreciation of the art form via reading and occasionally writing. His work has been published in international online & print journals. Samar feels that haiku can live in both poetry and prose.

**David J Kelly** has a fascination with words and the music of language. He enjoys writing Japanese short forms and sometimes people enjoy reading them.

**Laurie Kolp**'s poems have appeared in the *Southern Poetry Anthology VIII: Texas, Stirring, Whale Road Review, Pith, Rust + Moth*, and more. Her poetry books include the full-length *Upon the Blue Couch* and chapbook *Hello, It's Your Mother*. An avid runner and lover of nature, Laurie lives in Southeast Texas with her husband, three children, and two dogs. @KolpLaurie.

**John McManus** is an award-winning haiku poet from Carlisle, Cumbria, England. His haiku have been published all over the world, and his first collection of haiku *Inside His Time Machine* was published by Iron Press in 2016.

**Lori A Minor** is a feminist and mental health advocate who dabbles in visual and literary arts. She is the editor of the new e-zines *#FemkuMag* and *Bleached Butterfly*. Lori has just released her second book *inkblots revealing my story to the therapist*.

**Kit Pancoast Nagamura** has co-hosted NHK World's HAIKU MASTERS for three years. Her awards include Prizes of Excellence in the Ito-en Oi Ocha International Contest and the Setouchi-Matsuyama Photo/Haiku contest, as well as Honorable Mentions three years running in the Tokutomi Haiku Contest sponsored by the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society. Her book, titled *Grit, Grace, and Gold*, will be published in 2020.

**Patti Niehoff** lives in Cincinnati OH where she runs the Peregrine Haiku Society.

**Réka Nyitrai** lives in Bucharest, Romania. She was born in Transylvania, a land that she truly considers magic. She studied communication and political marketing. She always felt attracted to poetry, especially to short forms, however she only started writing haiku since 2018, early spring. She writes haiku, tanka and cherita. Her work has been published in *Under the Basho*, *Failed Haiku*, *#FemkuMag*, *Otata*, and *The Asahi Shimbun*.

**Vandana Parashar** is a microbiologist, a teacher and a haiku enthusiast. Her work has been published in *cattails*, *A Hundred Gourds*, *Creatrix*, *Naad Anunaad*, *Sonic Boom*, *Prune Juice*, *Asahi Haikuist Network*, *Failed Haiku*, *Atoms of Haiku*, *Frameless Sky* and *#FemkuMag*, to name a few. She has a Grand Prix in 8th Setouchi Matsuyama Photo Haiku Contest to her credit and prizes and honourable mentions in some other contests including Kukai. She lives in Panchkula with her husband and two daughters. Instagram: *\_van.dana*, Facebook : *vandana.parashar.5*, Twitter: *@vandanaparashar*.

**Marianne Paul** is a Canadian poet, novelist and, recently, an amateur bookbinder. She has won the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival haiku contest and the inaugural Jane Reichhold Memorial Haiga Competition. Marianne posts her words and art on Instagram *@ms.haiku*, Twitter *@mariannpaul* and on her websites: *www.mariannepaul.com* and *www.literarykayak.com*.

**Lynne Rees** is a Welsh writer and editor living in England, UK. She's a Pushcart Prize nominee and recipient of an International Hawthornden Fellowship. Her haibun collection, *forgiving the rain*, is published by Snapshot Press. *www.lynnerees.com*

**Fabio Sassi** makes photos and acrylics using what is considered to have no worth by the mainstream. He often puts a quirky twist to his subjects or employs an unusual perspective that gives a new angle of view. Fabio lives in Bologna, Italy and his work can be viewed at *www.fabiosassi.foliohd.com*

**Rich Schilling** lives in Webster Groves, Missouri with his wife and three kids. He has been published in *Mayfly*, *Modern Haiku*, *Is/let*, *Akitsu Quarterly* and numerous other journals.

**Sheila Sondik** is a poet and printmaker. In both her writing and visual art, she explores the sublime hiding in the everyday. Her haiku and tanka have been widely published. Egress Studio Press published her chapbook, *Fishing a Familiar Pond: Found Poetry from The Yearling* in 2013. Her website is *www.sheilasondik.com*.

**Debbie Strange** is an internationally published short form poet, haiga artist and photographer, whose creative passions bring her closer to the world and to herself. She maintains a publication and awards archive at [debbiemstrange.blogspot.com](http://debbiemstrange.blogspot.com), which also includes hundreds of haiga, and reviews of her books. Please visit her on Twitter @Debbie\_Strange.

**Bill Waters** loves to write micropoetry, photo and video poetry, ekphrastic poetry, found verse, and compressed prose. He also runs the Poetry in Public Places Project on Facebook. Bill lives in Pennington, New Jersey, U.S.A., with his wonderful wife and their two amazing cats.

**Lucy Whitehead's** haiku have been published in various international journals including *Akitsu Quarterly*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Cattails*, *Frogpond*, *hedgerow*, *The Heron's Nest*, *Modern Haiku*, *Otata*, *tinywords*, and *Under the Basho* and appear in various anthologies. Her Twitter handle is @blueirispoetry.

**Phoebe Woofter** (San Diego, CA) is an aspiring writer studying English at the University of San Diego.

# Source Poems

all by Mary Oliver

“At Black River”  
“August”  
“Breakage”  
“Death at a Great Distance”  
“Early Snow”  
“Every Morning”  
“Have You Ever Tried to Enter the Long Black Branches”  
“Hunter's Moon”  
“I Happened to Be Standing”  
“I Worried”  
“Moccasin Flowers”  
“Mysteries”  
“Peonies”  
“Reckless Poem”  
“Song for Autumn”  
“Spring”  
“The Fish”  
“The Sea”  
“The Shark”  
“White Flowers”  
“Yellowlegs”