

# **A Dictionary of Haiku Classified by Season Words with Traditional and Modern Methods**

by Jane Reichhold

AHA Books

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Paper publication as: ISBN: 0-944676-8-1

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**A Dictionary of Haiku**

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published in 2000

and available at

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## Introduction

The Japanese have long wondered how writers in English could ever hope to write haiku when one of the most-basic writing tools was unavailable to them. Every Japanese writer owns one or more *saijiki* (sigh-gee-key).

A *saijiki* is a dictionary of haiku in which the poems are arranged, not alphabetically, but by seasons. Within the five seasons (New Year's Day has a separate section) are usually the seven different categories: Season (weather aspects indicative of that time of year), Celestial Phenomena (stars, sun and moon), Terrestrial Phenomena (geographical aspects such as mountains, fields, rivers, etc.), Events (or holidays), Life (terms dealing with the daily life of humanity), Animals (deemed appropriate for each season), and Plants (often those most conspicuous for the season).

Within each of these categories the poems are listed in a prescribed order of appearance according to the natural world. In spring (and *saijiki* traditionally start with the first and best season) plum blossoms are listed before cherry blossoms because the plum blooms first; slush comes before new grass. In many cases there is a natural sequence; in others - as in animals - it is very arbitrary.

However, for the user, this all makes perfect sense.

It is spring, a haiku writer is feeling the urge to express his/her feelings. Before going on a walk for inspiration, the *saijiki* is consulted to see what has touched others and how they have formulated their thoughts and feelings. The *saijiki* is at once a source of ideas and a guide for what has been done and what is yet possible.

Renga (a genre of linked poetry) writers are very dependent upon a *saijiki*. For example, if one is expected to write a summer link and wants to use an animal or insect it has to be one that corresponds (according to tradition and other *saijiki*) to summer. You may be seeing butterflies all over in your summer day, but unless it is designated as a summer butterfly, a plain old vanilla butterfly is a spring symbol.

In America, *saijiki* have been misunderstood because certain knowledgeable persons have used Japanese *saijiki* to "carbon-date" haiku according to the assigned designations as set by the literary center of Japan - Tokyo as a way of criticizing the poem. I feel readers, given the chance to read haiku ordered by seasons and categories, can come naturally to an understanding and appreciation of the use of *kigo*. *Kigo* [season words] are accepted designated nouns and noun

phrases which have been traditionally classified according to season. A season word is authorized by literary authorities who accept a haiku using that word and publish it as such in a *saijiki*.

This brings up another reason no other English *saijiki* has been compiled. The North American haiku scene, at least the most vocal and visible, has largely ignored the use of *kigo*. At this point in English haiku, very few writers understand the historical position of the *kigo*, and even less of that number make use of it.

Renga writers, also, are rarely interested in following the rules for sets of seasons for the various links, partly because they had no available standard reference with which to check.

However, in the summer of this year [1991] I read the first *saijiki* published in both English and Japanese. Koko Kato, of the Ko Poetry Association, in Nagoya, Japan, edited a *saijiki* containing about 1,200 haiku from authors around the world. Among other revelations, I found it to be an excellent solution to a problem I have long pondered.

For as long as I have been publishing haiku - since 1979 - one of the problems for me has been to find a way of presenting a number of haiku to the reader which overcomes certain drawbacks of the genre.

Because of the shortness of a haiku, it is too easy for the eyes to race across the lines without pausing to savor either the language or waiting for the series of images to arise after each poem.

Various solutions are always being experimented with: haiku with illustrations, haiku one to a page, haiku written in all capital letters, haiku on cards, very small or short "books" of haiku. Sometimes the haiku are arranged in sequences, which makes them more cohesive in the reader's mind, but further defeats the purpose of slowing down the inquisitive mind. Still, when faced with a book of haiku, my first impulse is to read it from beginning to end.

I wanted to make a book in which this is physically impossible and mentally destructive. Reading too many haiku at once is the same as eating the whole box of assorted chocolate creams.

My dream reader would have this book next to the other dictionaries on the desk, or leave it laying on a nightstand, (or even in the little room of great relief) where, in an idle moment when the soul is soft and open, there is time to snatch a glimpse of a poem or two. Soon finding something to ponder, the book would be closed and laid down with the mind far away in the realm of imagining.

Yet, I wanted the reader to be able to easily find a haiku which was enjoyed or remembered. To my mind, listing the terms alphabetically facilitated this with less dependence on indexing.

I love looking up one word in a dictionary and then reading further down the page to see which words surround it. I also feel that when one "needs" to know something, it will pop into one's awareness and while looking up one poem,

another one, never yet read, will reveal itself. Fellow addicts of dictionary (addiction airy) reading will recognize the above symptoms and aha! understand that for haiku to be put into a dictionary form combines the best of my two compulsions.

The haiku in *A Dictionary of Haiku* are arranged into seasonal categories because, for me, a sense of the season is vital to enjoying and understanding haiku. Lacking our system of seasonal buzz words, it is very often difficult, or impossible, to know if an individual haiku (and here I refer only to English haiku) is set in autumn or winter. By putting many haiku together by season, it was my intention to let the season mood of one poem resonate with the next one, causing them to have the same vibration indicative of that time of year without the over-use of the actual words spring, summer, fall and winter.

Japanese *saijiki* have the individual items within a category listed in the arbitrary order of their natural appearance during the season which is often a matter of debate. In Japan, probably 90% of the *kigo* used for writing haiku goes into the arguments about the use and usage of *kigo*.

By listing the subjects within a category alphabetically, it avoids the above while it creates leaps within the subject matter of a season spanning such a distance so the reader will stop reading at the beginning of the next subject-word.

Though I have consulted available *kigo* lists from the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society of United States and Canada, those compiled by Kiyoko Tokatomi, and Koko Kato's *Four Seasons*, I have deviated from them considerably. For the Japanese reader and friend/defender of *saijiki*, the first category, especially will be a jolt to the senses.

Usually this section is labeled "season" or "climate" and the *kigo* express the essence of the time of year with venerated expressions which imply the emotions we equate with the season.

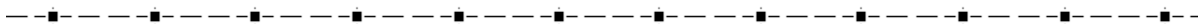
As English writers we too work with these sensibilities but lacking set phrases to stand for them, have had to express these human concepts and emotional states much more subtly. In the English/Japanese *saijiki* these haiku would be listed as "non-seasonal."

I felt by making a list of essences or moods of the seasons which embody our emotional states relative to that time of year, haiku which do not blatantly state "spring" but which emote the airiness, gentleness, freedom of spring, could be given their rightful place. Many of the *kigo* for the season/climate category (such as "bright skies" or "south wind") could more accurately fit into celestial phenomenon leaving a category free for emotional states, which to me, as a much a part of any season as a bird or flower.

One of the reasons the Japanese have so many *saijiki* is every editor has a new idea of how to categorize the indefinable and infinite. Using the knowledge available to me, the Japanese works in English recommended, I have organized my material in a way unlike the others.

I've borrowed ideas and inspiration from the concept to accomplish goals I had for bringing a number of unrelated haiku together in one volume to increase an awareness of the season for readers and writers. I hope you will find some poems here to please you. May they inspire you to write and treasure your version of your experiences.

Jane Reichhold  
Gualala, California  
October, 1991



# SPRING

## Spring Moods

### anticipation

she lifts her head  
a tapping at the window  
is only rain

rain  
opening the window  
a light heart

a south wind  
polishing my face clean  
for this journey

spring winds  
the old lady tries again  
to tidy her hair

spring mists  
on these long evenings  
someone's coming

an unknown boat  
coming into the harbor  
touches me

walking to work  
our sleeves touch  
starch on silk

asking for a ride  
his answer dotted  
with music

static electricity  
garbled introductions  
they lean together

panty hose  
she crosses her legs  
with whispers

woman and her pillow  
curled around a notebook  
dawn's first light

light  
imprinting the stone  
rings

**awe**

as one of us  
the child watches  
an earthworm

**being loved**

warm under quilts  
the young couple lie quiet  
in the place of one

rain drops  
falling around the bed  
her hair pins

his body a bow  
his arrow shot me  
full of flowers

spring storms  
at their climax  
thunder rolls away

rain shower  
afterwards he reads to me  
all of his poems

eyes  
into eyes  
lights

after lovemaking  
all is quiet until  
rain begins again

a woman's cry  
the shower begins  
with lightning

orgasm  
an explosion of flowers  
in wind chimes

tangled in sleep  
on a sea weed strewn beach  
lovers



flooded river  
sides flowing together  
lovers touch

dripping  
spring rain and your body  
in mine

driftwood lair  
lovers hidden from view  
found by the wind

lying in a river  
words of love  
in the current

## **boredom**

rain  
idle fingers strumming  
the dulcimer

one ear  
listening to the river  
wet with rain

rain dripping  
one hour  
into another

these long days  
watching the sky fade  
with closed eyes

river winds  
flipping white pages  
without poems

rain erases time  
one hour reused  
the whole day long

in this rain my house  
a stone in the stream  
I a female fossil

scattered  
among driftwood  
drifters

## **companionship**

touching his face  
the slope of her forehead  
echoes

new friends meet  
snow-melt streams  
into the river

walking  
the river comes  
along too

meeting an old friend  
at the mountain stream  
a bear

silence  
around lovers  
a silver cord

lovers in church  
giggling at the term  
immaculate

afternoon rain  
into my sleep  
your pencil moves

book covers  
renewing a friendship  
somewhat faded

clipboard  
unable to tell  
your poem from mine

## **complaints of lovers**

daybreak  
the person you love  
is not perfect

without love  
sea kelp growing  
a holdfast

alone  
but not alone  
the sun - the moon

so easy to love  
yet she always fumbles  
locks and keys  
organ drone  
mother's warning  
about choirboys  
rain complaining  
of the steepness of the lane  
to his lover's house  
parting  
at the river  
weeping willows  
unwanted child  
wearing a name  
that doesn't fit  
crying at dawn  
gulls  
and a lonely woman

## **desire**

morning fog  
dreams not buried  
deep enough  
spring sunshine  
the strangeness of his perfectly  
normal thumbnail  
sunny sea winds  
shoulders ache  
for the want of wings  
kids laughing  
in the neighbor's house  
the childless couple  
moonlight moving  
with the gate as the servant girl  
takes an evening  
unemployed carpenter  
l-o-v-e  
tattooed on his knuckles

Saturday rain  
the desire to buy something  
extravagant

Saturday rain  
desire by a warm stove  
for an affair

static electricity  
a silken sleeve is drawn  
to the amber

white surf  
wanting to keep the ocean  
free of oil wells

waterfall  
delicate forms  
for a spirit

buying  
Scotch magic tape  
as it were

## **dreams**

dinosaur claws  
taken to a rocky beach  
a dreaming mind

ballet movies  
all night her dreams  
tip-toe

dreaming I was  
the sleeve of your coat  
I learned your secret

acrobat family  
mine - if I ran away  
to the circus

roar of the surf  
sleeping on the beach  
a child dreams

napping  
among driftwood logs  
sleeping

awakening  
furniture  
with chipped veneers

## **ephemeral**

up and down  
driftwood lairs of lovers  
come and go

tide pool still  
as if it is tomorrow  
I'm not here

fading  
condolence cards  
the sting

sea spray  
a rock writes  
another name

spirals  
the world tied together  
with double helixes

a watch  
left out in the rain  
timeless

## **excitement**

three fingertips  
pressed to a cheek telling  
of a new love affair

tide turns  
leaping white into the cove  
our eyes

raindrops  
in a waterfall  
glory-rush

surf's surge and boom  
brushing my teeth  
in a stranger's bathroom

each white wave  
mounts the black rock  
differently

waves crash  
in the trickling away  
another crests

hour by hour  
the wave-white sea  
becomes the wind

spring run-off  
a little more - a little less  
humans get so excited

## **expectation**

waist  
long-gone encircles  
a child

rented house  
the ocean's roar  
in mother's womb

tugging at my sleeve  
the a wind a voice  
saying *mommy!*

the widow  
taking swimming lessons  
from the life guard

on a bridge  
a young couple discuss  
old lovers

## **expansion**

nest  
the fullness of spring  
with eggs

lunch  
time by the brook  
spring-fed

always further  
down the road frogs  
and the dark

on the long pier  
a tall father tells his son  
how deep the ocean is

winds on the beach  
going inland to remind you  
of my love

thin and pale  
the air of spring  
leaving in flowers

smooth seas  
upon jagged shores  
the power

## **expectation**

a love affair  
building a fire  
in a strange stove

the new couple  
one looks upstream  
the other down

dropping sticks  
in the flooded river  
their fortune

## **happiness**

rivers  
taking care of us  
small fishes

earth  
each spot layered  
with stories

sunshine  
on the hobo's back  
hitchhiking

song  
from a fence post  
meadow lark  
the night is shortened  
by your letters on the pillow  
here beside me  
coming together  
your nearness  
my music

**hope**

the road before us  
departing clouds bright  
with a rising sun

**increase**

so much rain  
this year how the kids  
have grown

**jealousy**

turning green  
each wave crests  
higher than the last  
thunder  
his first date  
not hers

**joy**

spring rain  
your gentleness seems to know  
no sorrow  
to off-shore rocks  
spring comes rowing  
lovers in a boat  
parents  
showing the newborn  
to the rising sun  
lips  
take from the springs  
whistling

**lust**

cut crystal rainbow  
shining where he wanted  
to touch her  
warming  
her feelings of love  
the hot springs  
ducks  
paddling around  
lovers



invisible thrusting  
the mountain raises  
all of us

flooded river  
rubbing low skies  
electric current

a woman's slit  
sliding over granite  
a spring

spring  
the urge to scratch  
the earth with a hoe

randy again  
her voice on the phone says  
"*... he wants me*"

treasured gift  
her smooth stone calls  
as the phone rings

gentle breathing  
night rain comes alive  
tapping on the window

society dame  
flirts with an unreal cowboy  
her teenage romance

dawn's faint hour  
awakens under closed eyes  
a shiver of pictures

desiring you  
rain drums  
in my ears

love duet  
everyone in the music class  
crosses their legs

pearl buttons  
undoing her blouse  
two soft ones

patterns  
your words open  
the iris

## **new life**

tumbling surf  
water voices of children  
within the womb

heavy surf  
that sound I heard before  
being born

soft things  
inheriting a pattern  
in time

desert wind  
naked as the crack  
where I was born

silence  
baby's blue eyes  
without tears

fingerprints  
the tiny scars  
for life

lying in your lap  
the dense smell of musk  
a birthday gift

the poise of coming  
forward waves on a beach  
a baby's first steps

## **passion**

this need to love  
mountains give to spring  
flowers

downpour  
your fingers  
inside me

sun setting  
emerald waves free  
our passion

illuminated  
in the light from the barn  
their first kiss

rain  
pounding in love  
all night

rain on the roof  
wet around us  
on the sheets

kisses  
in your open mouth  
the rest of you

in and out  
of the river's mouth  
a tongue of sea

opening my legs  
to the flooded river  
currents meet

jerking off  
the love scene played  
by marionettes

**peace**

deep humming  
waves unrolling  
the bay

relaxed  
cherry flowers unfold  
peace

across the fence  
with his cherry in bloom  
I can forgive him

planting peas  
a harvest today  
of peace

asleep  
morning seas quiet  
pink

raised up  
within the protection  
a mountain unfolding

## **pleasure**

a touch of silk  
caressing her body  
glistening sperm

vacation  
utterly exhausted  
by pleasure

## **seduction**

local flirt  
two pair of wool socks  
below a backless dress

standing still  
his glance begins  
the dance

silence  
between eyes  
love lights

her hem  
the wind lifts  
a little fog

giving him  
a bite of her  
oldest apple tree  
*- for Marlene Mountain*

deep sea green waters  
sheltered by a cove slipping  
into something frothy

## **unfaithfulness**

rented house  
rows of ocean waves  
seem unfaithful

a strange house  
the new nightgown  
seems unfaithful

## **youthfulness**

a young girl  
chewing gum in conversation  
with herself

river childhood  
banging a bucket  
boat sides  
tea house  
a child feeds the *koi* fish  
his fortune  
how proudly it waves  
the American flag T-shirt  
on her young breasts  
wet dreams  
the man in the moon  
was once young  
young poet gives  
to Jane his book of poems  
*"For Maggy, with love"*

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## **Spring Occasions**

### **April Fool**

no April Fools  
these crocus buds closed  
against the snow

### **Ash Wednesday**

the guru speaks  
evening steals upon us  
with wide-open eyes

### **baptism**

stained glass  
above the baptismal font  
a babe spotted red

### **decorating graves**

canning jars  
overflowing among the graves  
roses

## **Easter bunny**

Easter bunny  
leaving a basket  
of kittens

## **Easter eggs**

Easter Monday  
finding a solid chocolate egg  
under fake grass

## **Earth Day**

earth day  
my pencil bounces  
as a tree falls

## **Easter**

high mountain village  
church organ reedy as willows  
the noisy brook

telephone call  
the addressed Easter card|  
not to be sent

Easter morning mountain  
my shadow crosses  
Death Valley

Easter Sunday  
hikers arrive  
in Cathedral Canyon

after the storm  
a sunny Easter morning  
finds opals

atheists' vacation  
Easter weekend  
in Death Valley

## **Fathers' Day**

Father's Day  
he names his son  
after me

late again joke  
gift-wrapping popcorn  
for Father's Day

Father's Day  
she mows the lawn  
and whistles

**Good Friday**

Good Friday  
buying Easter candy  
the second time

**Graduation Day**

Graduation Day  
sweat and mothballs  
grass so green  
graduation  
where green banners wave  
grass grows long  
graduation night  
the owl printed on a balloon  
seems the wisest

**gun salute**

gun salute  
from a hilltop monastery  
monks chanting

**Lent**

religion  
on the remote coast  
buoy bells

**May Day**

May day  
removing her wedding band  
the last cloud

**Memorial Day**

Memorial Day  
so many flowers broken off  
on the ground

Memorial Day  
wild flowers overpower  
the flags

cloudy  
a crowded sky  
Memorial Day

Memorial Day  
the passion flower opens  
wholeheartedly

Memorial Day  
the honored guests slept  
through the parade

## **Mothers' Day**

Mother's Day  
giving the old cat  
a dish of cream

Mother's Day  
the daughter's call  
about her divorce

Mother's Day  
wearing the silver earrings  
from Mexico

Mother's Day  
deciding the cat  
must be spayed

Mother's Day  
all of her flowers bloom  
along the road

Mother's Day  
the photo of her  
afternoon

Mother's day  
give-away puppies escaping  
the banana box

Mother's Day  
seaside restaurant special  
crab balls

## **Saint Patrick's Day**

wearing of the green  
for a real Irishman  
a black & blue eye

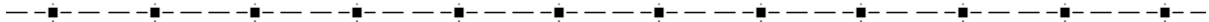
## **toy rabbits**

during the hailstorm  
the stuffed Easter rabbit  
clutched in her arms



## wedding

last day of frost  
buying the bride  
a bread box  
rehearsing vows  
in the middle of the night  
frogs  
honeymooners  
boats in the harbor  
anchored together  
smiles leaving  
her bridal jitters  
at the altar



## Spring Celestial

### air

fibers  
so fine mornings  
green the air  
before it comes  
the knowing of rain  
in the air  
sea air  
each cell fills  
with salt water  
morning air  
tightly rolled  
in her curlers

### breeze

morning breeze  
in the flooded river saying  
*"find a spring green stone"*  
morning breeze  
coming in the window  
surf sounds

## clouds

clouds  
the sky divided  
into puddles

waves  
churning up high  
clouds

clouds  
touching the sea  
with rain

free to fly  
some of the ocean  
in wind-driven colors

wispy clouds  
splashed across the sky  
sea foam

a point of land  
breaking through the clouds  
sunshine

pinetrees  
under great white mountains  
clouds

changing forms  
all around the Buddha  
clouds in a blue sky

clouds  
flooding the river  
with spring

spring cloud melt  
flooding river willows  
green leaves

journeying  
spring clouds blow over  
packed suitcases

rolling down  
rounded ridges  
rain clouds

a cloudy day  
the silky softness  
of fresh-washed hair

spring winds  
between the tops of bent grass  
bottoms of clouds

silence  
in high winds a cloud  
turns around

wispy clouds  
a white-water view  
of the sky

## **fog**

the pyramid  
morning fog and sun  
slanted by redwoods

treetops green  
leaving in fog  
clean blue

a winter heart  
flying into spring  
low clouds and fog

sunrise  
pouring into the valley  
fog

cliff side  
the edge of fog  
bright green

step by step  
a hole in the fog  
walking away

moon radiance  
filling the river valley  
fog

sea fog  
darken the trampled grass  
beach path at dawn

## **hail**

on the green hill  
piles of dark clouds  
full of hailstones

after lovemaking  
hail falls between us  
she buttons her blouse

## **hazy moon**

a hazy moon  
pinpointed by the lights  
of fishing boats

## **light**

silence  
wafted by light  
many colors  
a range of light  
morning colors flow  
out of the high Sierras  
morning light  
the sound of waves  
on your sleeping face  
without lights  
the brightness of a blue sky  
full of stars  
dawn's faint hour  
squeezes in heart-run veins  
light in every limb  
light touching  
where only rain goes  
trespassing  
tides  
light comes and goes  
as ocean  
first light  
the cove still dark  
with low tide  
dawn light  
rocks and water  
full of fire  
wings of dawn  
birds unfolding  
the light

the dark moon  
pulls out of the ridge  
morning light

stars bend down  
morning seas light  
dawn

ocean so wide  
and weighty  
yet dancing with light

sunrise  
out of two feet comes eight  
foot long shadows

crack of dawn  
the thin line  
of birds peeping

curving an ember  
of a not space place  
crack of dawn

morning waves  
to burnished water  
a radiance

ancient cypress  
leaning over the light  
at sunrise

## **lingering cold**

morning bright  
meets cabin cold  
on quilted mountains

as is the dark  
without the sound of rain  
the room grows cold

April weather  
all the changes  
leave us cold

spring presses  
cold into shadow  
shapes

curve of the sea  
cupping her breasts  
cold hands

still cold  
spoons in the sandbox  
all empty

## **long day**

shining glass  
of unlit kerosene lamps  
this long evening  
expanding the warmth  
the yellow flowers  
of longer days  
old snow  
soften by bird song  
a longer day  
a long day  
unfolding rock crevices  
with light  
the long day  
holding my eyes  
against the sky

## **morning**

rocks give way  
morning light rolls over  
eastern peaks  
morning  
drawing lines on the sea  
one for the horizon  
morning  
wetted by the light splash  
of small waves  
morning  
side of the mountain  
awake  
early morning  
the weight of paper  
waiting for poems  
ocean terrace  
lifting to the north-born fog  
morning

morning light  
dreams climb the dark wall  
of the obelisk

yawning  
sea fog in the valley  
rolls into morning

morning sun  
pulled over the ridge  
by sleepy eyes

morning sun  
coming down the cliff  
the ocean night

morning fire  
blazed forth at last  
sun through the fog

## **moon**

a morning moon  
your face in sleep  
turned to the wall

a calm sea  
refusing to accept  
the morning moon

balanced at dawn  
a full moon slides into the sea  
without ripples

too perfect  
the day moon rises  
from snow-capped peaks

wild surf  
tears in the night  
a tender new moon

morning  
a touch of sea waves  
and the moon melts

## **mist**

sea light  
filling the valleys  
with mist

moving against mist  
crumbles from the cliff  
stream down

pink misty mountains  
gather between the peaks  
the rising sun

morning mist  
filling the spaces  
of night birds

lacking a redness  
the gray mist of morning  
not yet an argument

mists  
leaving the lake  
high

fire angels  
river mists at dawn  
manifest

ocean roar  
at the open window  
a breath of mist

mist  
softens the hills  
incoming waves

### **passing of spring**

passing of spring  
water trickles over rock  
into the *koi* pond

### **rain**

a wooden gate  
the sky begins to crumble  
the upright posts

narrow brook  
in pouring rain  
the smallness

rain  
falling in the brook  
once again



salt shaker  
in dawn's pearly light  
the pouring rain

in this rain my house  
a stone in the stream  
I a female fossil

March rains  
filling the zodiac  
with fish

running from the hill  
the haste of rain water  
in twisted paths

tops of waves  
on mountain ridges  
rain

such a rain!  
changing into  
a clean nightgown

falling  
with the rain  
into bed

rain  
coming to the wakeful  
sleep sounds

waves  
wind flowing over mountains  
in rain

a sound falling  
in the night bird feathers  
spring rain

falling  
the amount of rain  
in a haiku

sky waters  
young between trees  
on a high wind

spring rain  
the night sound  
of bird feathers

after the storm  
a thing in the dark  
somewhere drips

rain clouds  
the tide turns  
small ripples

a rippled pool  
a rain cloud falling  
into the sea

## **raindrops**

round puddle  
in spaces between raindrops  
circles

edge of the roof  
raindrops dripping off  
seconds of the night

raindrops  
drowning in the pool  
rings as tombs

raindrops  
wetting rocks dried  
by low tide

## **rainbow**

spindrift  
the setting sun  
in a rainbow

segments  
morning rainbows  
in a wet net

clouds  
drifting into sea foam  
rainbows

rainbridge  
crossing the river  
rainbow

## **showers**

after a shower  
stars also shine  
brighter

May showers  
the wind so gentle  
rain is round

April showers  
your sticky diamonds  
dry on my leg

a white wave breaks  
in the death of tumult  
a rainbow

**sky**

morning faces  
ocean and sky  
soften pink

waves breaking  
a paler blue washes  
across the sky

line of mountains  
stretching the eye  
a clear sky

**snow**

for the maiden dance  
light fluffy flakes  
of April snow

snow mixing  
my breath  
with spring

**stars**

a morning moon  
nearly touching Venus  
with my finger

darkness  
dawn light enters  
filled with stars

faithful 'till sunrise  
of all the heavenly lights  
only the morning star

morning stars  
alone with me  
the beach

morning stars  
the call of the sea  
over the dunes  
in the morning sun  
thousands of night stars  
still in the dew  
still a few stars  
as if they will stay  
all morning  
in the marrow  
of my own bones  
a morning star  
forest clearing  
a circle of stars  
spinning out

## **sunshine**

sunshine  
making light of it  
salt water wave  
opening the cave  
the morning sun  
slips in  
filling the bay  
an incoming tide  
of sunshine  
silence  
in a rain shower  
sunshine  
in spring sunshine  
around the granite stones  
spaces green  
sunlight  
in a slurp of coffee  
Sunday morning  
on the far ridge  
an arch of fire burns  
into Sunday  
morning sun  
creeping from up to down  
in the sleeping holes

## **sunrise**

sunrise  
coming thru the mountain pass  
a yellow line

ocean sunrise  
the colors of a grandson  
running on the beach

sunrise  
slipping into view  
bird songs

the sun rises  
petting a yellow cat  
with warmth

walking east  
drawn to that place  
the sun rises

sun rise  
giving me a new name  
and a shadow

## **Vernal Equinox**

first day of spring  
on the calendar  
by the snowy window

rising from earth  
the spring equinox moon  
grows round

desert springs hot tub  
the canyon rim warms  
with spring's first dawn

spring equinox  
fitting into winter  
a saucer and cup

double helix  
earth hangs  
in a woven net

## **wind**

coming inside  
spring wind has filled  
my pockets with cold

wind  
rubbing the lake  
the wrong way

sea winds  
smells diluted by distance  
flow thin as light

lace curtains  
whipped by spring winds  
billows of clouds

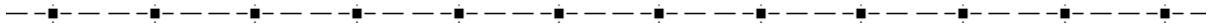
cloud wind  
blowing colors in and out  
of the ocean

high winds  
memories  
of flight

stars bend down  
into the wind of whitecaps  
morning light

no trespassing sign  
torn down by spring winds  
the open sky road

a south wind  
ironing work shirts on the line  
at thirty knots an hour



## **Spring Terrestrial**

### **beach**

a wide beach  
the many suns  
of foam

beach diamonds  
a new day crystallized  
in sunny surf foam

beach logs  
bleached silver  
beach rain

incoming waves  
unroll a foamy carpet  
of gray skies

spring  
unrolling on the beach  
a great white roar

morning  
especially high on the beach  
sleeper waves

## **brook**

lost sleep  
in a babbling brook  
loud as the cold

all the noise  
of spring-flooded stream  
bright green

forgotten brook  
running the centuries down  
locked in rock

## **cliffs**

jagged cliffs  
falling water torn to shreds  
smoothes rocks

sea cliffs touch  
soft edges of water  
nights

## **fields**

black winds  
the moonless earth  
deeply plowed

## **flooding**

wheels of water  
rims rolling all night  
the spring flood

spring rains  
swirling flooded waters  
driftwood

flood waters  
spreading valley to valley  
mud

clouds  
flooding the river  
bubble sounds

spring floods  
the river valley  
in high spirits

cloud sound  
the river flooded  
without a duck

bridging  
the flooded river  
my fears

up-canyon winds  
rushing flood waters  
the wrong way

carried along  
with the flooded river  
muddy thoughts

white pussy willows  
above a muddy swollen river  
fat raindrops

flood waters  
filling on a deserted island  
a wine bottle

spring  
comes to the river  
flooded

drop  
by  
drop  
the river floods

*glub glub*  
the flooded river  
drinking stones

all the noise  
of a spring-flooded river  
back in the wind

spring floods  
the river valley  
up to my toes



spring floods  
grasses on a high hill  
lowered

swollen stream  
flowing sideways  
into fence rows

blue into blue  
flood waters rise  
in a pool of iris

rising flood waters  
tonight's moon is less  
than yesterday's

flooded delta  
in the rocks  
many cracks

eventide  
desert mountains flooded  
with pink

### **heat shimmer**

desert sounds  
out of the sun  
clouds moving

### **heat waves**

rippling grass  
wind moves up the hill  
light waves

### **hills**

coastal hills  
from curling waves  
a new green

hill rise  
trees lending themselves  
to the land

high tides  
sea mists in coastal hills  
new green grass

blue veils  
badly wrinkled - barely smoothed  
rows of coastal hills

surf rolling  
morning sunshine  
into green hills  
coast hills  
one dark rainstorm leaves  
a green shimmer

## **lake**

the spring lake  
rising up to sit  
on the bench  
ripples  
the lake ear listening  
to us

## **mesa**

skystone  
dropped by a mesa  
a light shine

## **meadow**

after the storm  
small waves on sea meadows  
meek sheep  
flute melodies  
across green ocean waves  
spring meadows

## **melting snow**

the bones the stones  
the last snow melts  
again a river  
coming between trees  
slanted sunshine rivulets  
melting snow

## **mountains**

soul shape  
between soft evening peaks  
a valley cradle  
coastal mountains  
catching the rain clouds  
wet slopes

rising at 6:00 am  
a wobbly blue line  
of distant mountains

morning air  
the mountain smells  
as if it had slept

up the mountain  
on the yellow line  
someone goes down

mountains  
folding into a valley  
bird wings

### **muddy road**

sunshine on  
the way to your house  
a muddy road

### **oasis**

desert oasis  
finding in the water  
more "o" sounds

trickle  
life in a granite wall  
water

### **puddles**

floating clouds  
down from the mountain  
a puddle of rain

in mud puddles  
in a strange sky over  
a stranger land

rain drops  
in a puddle crowns  
of light jewels

skystone  
rounding the matrix  
a puddle

in puddles  
the pattern of raindrops  
dyes the hills green

## rivers

light  
winding through the forest  
a river

rocks twist  
the river smooths  
each one

evening skies  
dark comes to the river  
cloudless

light  
drawing in the river  
boulders

low clouds  
squeezing earth  
into a river

streaming in  
morning light electrifies  
the river

river wind  
from valley to mountain top  
dampness

after the shower  
the smell of pine soap  
in the forest

pencil  
a color of trees  
wet with rain

river sound  
its shape moving  
one

a bright eye  
following the light wood  
carried by the river

seeping  
between rocks a river  
begins nameless

tumbling  
wood at high tide  
into a river

river valley  
letting the sunrise  
into the sea

rain  
the river beginning  
on the roof

amber clouds  
in skies shallow with rain  
a moving stream

along with the rain  
going down the mountain  
to the sea

rivers  
converging  
raindrops

clean bright blue  
redwood shadows  
on a muddy river

wind in pines  
rushing to the river  
rain

clouds  
hanging around the river  
rain drop spirits

sunshine  
in the mud-yellow river  
rain

spring rain  
a dance with tiny steps  
tree roots growing

## **run-off**

playfully tossing  
river smooth stones  
spring run-off

spring run-off  
leaping into the sky  
falls

spring run-off  
down the face of the rock  
jagged joy

escaping  
a moan from the banks  
spring run-off

**sea**

in the beginning  
before we awake  
there's the ocean

daylight  
leaping out of dark seas  
a wave

heaving seas at dawn  
you breath as lightly  
as the sky

refreshed by sleep  
morning seas  
calm and clear

the face of morning  
sky shining on the ocean  
a blush of pink

land breezes  
gentled by rolling  
hills to the sea

morning sun  
finding off shore rocks  
yet another one

waving every wave  
the ocean wild  
as early spring

surf sounds  
wall to the outer world  
pale green and white

the bay  
curving into the sea  
spring

wide ocean  
ending in little waves  
covers bare toes

dawn  
the moon with me  
sinks into the sea

morning  
coming from the night  
the flat ocean

underfoot  
the ocean rearranges  
its rocks

morning mild  
waves bring to the shore  
misty sunlight

undercurrents  
surf roar to Vivaldi  
on tape

spinning around  
the earth curls  
each row of waves

spring waves  
curled water  
coming unrolled

into the cove  
a big wave brings  
a bit of sun

gathering energy  
a wave rises up  
in me

weaver winds  
the white world of waves  
spinning

## **springs**

mountain spring  
a damp breathing  
from a rock

lips  
sucking from the spring  
a life sound

rocky spring  
lips taking a sip  
from lips

taking from the spring  
words of praise  
holy water

## **tide - high**

many days of rain  
the ocean at high tide  
covers it all

tide turning  
around rocks  
around the sea

## **tide - low**

low tide  
a giant wave still fills  
the narrow gorge

a month of rain  
low tide returns to us  
a favorite beach

low-tide rocks  
resting on the ocean's bottom  
this morning

hearing secrets  
a low tide whispers  
about the rocks

pale green  
the ocean's bottom  
at low tide

low-tide rocks  
the sun in a rack of clouds  
far out at sea

deep enough  
the ocean covers a rock  
with small white waves

sea caves  
hollow at low tide  
buoy bells

whispers  
rising up to come ashore  
transparent waves

emerald pools  
the color of sleep  
at low tide



## **tide - incoming**

incoming tide  
wets small rocks  
each with time  
pulled from sleep  
spring high tides  
crash and roar

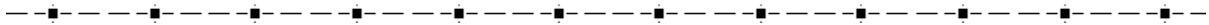
## **tide pool**

magic light  
shining from rocks  
tide pool  
opal light  
glancing from salt  
waves  
land shaped  
by the heavy blue wind  
underwater

## **waterfall**

mountain stream  
sparkling waterfalls  
washed by snow  
falling wind  
water catches sunlight  
in white plumes  
water  
exploded from living rock  
falls  
tear-wet  
the tiny waterfall  
no one photographs  
canyon walls  
slide into the valley  
water sounds  
water smoke  
rising up the waterfall  
rainbows  
a shower of light  
over the canyon rim  
a waterfall

river bed  
a sheet of water  
torn to mist  
speed-rush  
a beach waterfall dives  
into the sea  
mill race  
spring sunshine  
pushing the wheel  
waterfall  
at the top of the hill  
Buddha  
stone lantern  
a trickle of light  
in the waterfall  
water falling  
the crystal parts  
of a rock fall  
speckled rock  
drops from a waterfall  
blur  
concave rock  
the convex bulge  
of the waterfall



### **Spring Livelihood**

#### **balloon**

a popped balloon  
breath  
a breeze again

#### **birth**

washing the newborn  
ties with rainwater  
cloud to earth

newborn  
wet with the water  
unrained

April winds  
a birth announcement  
in the wrong mail box

## **breakfast**

flood waters crest  
someone by the river puts water  
in a coffee pot

breakfast coffee  
the excitement of an ocean  
in my cup

threads of smoke  
breakfast fires of neighbors  
tied together

pale spring sunshine  
spread over breakfast toast  
quince jelly

beating egg yolks  
two yellow butterflies  
twist in the fog

early morning rain  
the dry sound inside the cabin  
of oatmeal cooking

## **building**

for sale signs  
yet nobody can own  
the river

a bit of sky  
pushed aside  
the new house

walls  
of knotty pine  
raindrops

sound of rain  
as a dry roof  
arches

arches  
splashing rain  
on a tin roof  
raindrops  
flattening the roof  
till it shines  
running away  
from four corners of the roof  
patter of rain  
mashed thumb  
out of it flies  
a purple oath  
return of the cold  
flesh by her thumbnail  
splits and bleeds  
across the canyon  
the neighbor hammers  
on an echo  
sky blue  
the faded quilt warm  
in the rain  
cloudy day  
the pattern in the native rug  
looks like rain

### **change of clothes**

spring sunshine  
warming the wool  
of winter socks

### **childhood**

used clothes  
childhood and peanut butter  
buying a dress  
sun and skin  
turning cart wheels  
a young girl  
sliver of moon  
a peeled willow wand  
in a boy's hand

flickering shadows  
the way children imitate  
ballet dancers on TV

**exercise**

rain on the roof  
reading in the novel  
of hurrying feet  
balance act  
with a gust of wind  
a crash of bowls  
Tai Chi on the beach  
one gull watches  
with outstretched wing  
surf sand  
sinking in  
human feet

**fasting**

fasting  
the sunrise brings  
nothing to eat

**fatherhood**

the macho man  
all of his children  
just like him

**fishing**

on the pier  
the old farmer tells us  
how to fish  
as the tide ebbs  
fishermen appear  
on the sand  
ocean fog  
fishing boats  
in the sky  
evening  
the river full of fish  
fishermen  
dusk lake  
sinking into darkness  
fishermen's voices

*gone fishing*  
the fly-specked sign hangs  
from one corner

foreign  
the fishing boat pushed aside  
our familiar kelp

the blue boat  
a hole in the sea  
filled with fish

Sunday morning  
a fishing breeze tugs  
at his tie

fishing  
green spots in the river  
catch the light

river edged  
by the squeak of boots  
fishermen

surf fishing  
when they saw our catch  
beer appeared

tied to the pier  
the fishy smells  
of empty boats

fishing  
in the clear pool  
a reflected branch

thoughts  
dangling in the river  
a fishing line

in the fisherman's pail  
his gourmet names  
for small fry

the childless woman  
fishes with her man  
bracelets of salt

river fog  
untying the boat  
from a long pier

tarnished  
the silver knife turns red  
against fish skin

cleaning her nails  
my husband's lover  
sells fish

morning light  
catches fishing boats  
far out at sea

scattered  
from lighthouse to lighthouse  
glow of fisherfolk

sunset  
dark on the sea  
fisher boats

low-tide rocks  
coast dwellers going home  
with a few groceries

fishermen  
the one with a pole  
watches a gull

### **fly swatter**

no guests  
the fly swatter lies  
on the Sunday papers

### **gather shells**

picking up shells  
ah! there's an old one  
moon in a tide pool  
hermit crabs click together  
after my morning hum  
applause

looking for shells  
above the dark sand  
the sun rose

a box of sea shells  
finding your letters  
of long ago

a smooth stone  
covered with barnacles  
points homeward  
low tide weather  
salt-stained trouser legs  
sandy pockets of air  
on the beach  
a broken sea shell thought  
the forgotten dentist visit

## **kites**

kite string  
a child's name spoken  
in a high wind  
a kite  
raising from sea mists  
rainbow colors  
watercolor class  
the painted blue sky  
becomes a kite  
beach  
the hermit's kite  
soaring gulls  
flying a kite  
gulls above the beach stare  
at the old couple  
a downed kite  
the child whispers  
*"sh, it's sleeping"*  
wind dies  
as the string goes limp  
*"wake up kite!"*

## **lovers**

driftwood lair  
lovers hidden from view  
discovered by the wind

## **midday nap**

beach nap  
plugged into the power  
of incoming waves



## **motherhood**

her swollen belly  
giving a shape  
to baby clothes

her waist  
long-gone encircling  
a child

flood-swollen stream  
the pregnant woman waits  
at home

young mother  
with a squeaky toy  
explains the birthmark

doctor's office  
the new mother sings  
off key

stars come out  
counting baby toes  
one by one

a womb  
home to a womb  
daughter

## **mountain climbing**

mountain climbing  
pausing in the level place  
to dance

## **music**

wind sighs  
in harp strings  
chords

melody  
from the ocean's surface  
a ripple of harp

another song  
the drone of a dulcimer  
rain on a cedar roof

old melody  
picked out of the air  
one note at a time

a minuet  
and you  
sharpening pencils  
singing  
gentle sounds of rain  
silence a voice  
water flowing  
around the round notes  
organ music  
out of a dark cloud  
the piano solo  
*arpeggio* of rain  
cat's cradle  
all of the strings  
of a clarinet  
gentle breathing  
before the performance  
rhythms of rain  
water colors  
the flute concert  
steals gray  
flute concert  
taming the wind storm  
with a symphony

**newly-weds**

hailstorm  
the bride's first pea soup  
uneaten  
rain drops  
a blanket of gray silk  
on the bed

**painting**

the beach  
into watercolors  
blowing sand

**photographing**

bright colors  
of her photograph  
when he lived

## **planting**

early spring  
only the hoe handle  
is warm to touch

the rock  
carried yesterday pulls on  
tonight's shoulder

such a spring day  
dad spades his garden  
wherever he is

dark moon  
something moves deep with  
a carrot seed

strawberries planted  
the blister on her palm  
glows bright red

## **plowing**

April snow  
black plowed earth  
turned to white

## **prayers for rain**

raindancer  
from his face drops  
beads of sweat

with water  
begging the soil soon  
for lettuce

## **repairing fences**

nail in a fence post  
warming in the sun  
for the first time

## **sailing**

foggy yacht harbor  
boats and sailors  
still asleep

rocking gently  
late in the morning boats  
still asleep

## **snowmen melting**

snowman  
bowing down  
to spring  
as the snowman shrinks  
the day is lengthened  
by the March wind  
spring sunshine  
the snowman too  
loses his head

## **spring housecleaning**

stove black  
simple life spring  
house cleaning  
cabin bed  
a blanket of mold  
greening spring  
a spring storm  
the bath brush bristles  
bent to one side  
freshly washed jeans  
haiku in the pocket  
are also clean  
laundry hung out  
the old cat and I  
sit together  
a day of sunshine  
caught on a clothes line  
covers the bed  
spring cleaning  
the last of the lint  
in my navel  
rotting April snow  
the refrigerator defrosts  
automatically  
fog rolls in  
bare windows curtained  
with sea green silk

seaside house  
in a sunny corner  
waves of warmth

incoming tide  
moving the chairs  
to the porch

### **shopping**

scene from the steeple  
a field of umbrellas  
has come to market

### **soap bubbles**

breath taking  
liquid air swirled rainbows  
in soap bubbles

faint shadows  
on the earth at eclipse  
soap bubbles

### **wedding**

grandmother's shawl  
wrapping it about her shoulders  
she decides to marry

torn silk  
blown into a mist  
Bridal Veil Falls

buying a moonstone  
with a bogus check  
the wedding gift

wedding ceremony  
shaping his hand  
into a club

### **weeding**

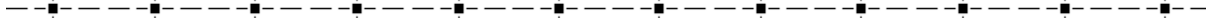
liver of lamb  
tomorrow will weed  
hills of potatoes

earth cools the wood  
of a smooth handled hoe  
even song

wild grasses  
unable to escape  
the chopping hoe

## wind chimes

dawn  
wind chimes melody  
by a light breeze



## SPRING Animals

### abalone

shades of art deco  
lying on the beach  
abalone shells  
mouths  
dissolving rock faces  
abalone  
colors of seafoam  
in the abalone  
a cup of fog

### anemone

tides turning  
anemone  
open

### barnacles

designing barnacles  
foam on the shore  
of shells

### bees

still stinging  
yesterday's bee  
dead  
bees at the oasis  
bringing desert sun  
in to drink  
bee lines  
exciting the air  
between flowers

## **beetles**

a bulldozer  
the small black bug  
backs up

## **baby birds**

breakfast  
fat lips of baby birds  
open the day  
picnic in the woods  
papa brings a prize bug  
to baby birds

## **baby rabbits**

morning magic show  
now you see the baby rabbits  
now you don't  
the ears of a rabbit  
aglow in the morning sun  
and down a hole

## **birds**

sunrise  
on the ridge a white ring  
around a bird's eye  
birds  
filled with air  
fly into it  
the tempest returns  
to a rain puddle  
a bathing bird

## **bird feathers**

bird feathers  
in the night sound  
spring rain  
fading the colors  
of a peacock feather  
an iris blooms  
joined by listening  
the breath of disciples  
in baby birds

## bird song

above the snow  
at the level of bird song  
spring begins

from afar  
a bird's beak opening  
the gentle air

adding scrollwork  
to a summer morning  
bird song

white sparks  
from a bird's beak  
the first notes

air of rain  
filled with drops  
of bird song

bird call  
two notes  
of my pulse

between rocks  
at low tide  
bird song

first light  
in dawn's forest  
a bird peeps

geometry of birds  
in the clearing a triangle  
of call to call

the guru speaks  
the microphone picks up  
bird song

bird song  
nights  
where you touch me

bird song  
the wordless poems  
of early morning

sunset  
the last light  
bird song



thunder smashing  
bird song against the earth  
petals on the ground

twilight  
the calls of birds  
growing dark

**blackbirds - red-winged**

blackbirds  
tying cattails  
to the sky

not yet spring  
a blackbird leaves a branch  
shivering

**bluebirds**

dawn song  
the sky lightened  
by bluebirds

**blue jays**

raindrops  
the pitter-patter  
of blue jays

bordering  
the wooded path  
blue jay cries

**caterpillar**

my eye  
the spot on the larva's back  
where wings emerge

**cat**

dry scraping  
cat paws on a wooden floor  
early morning rain

my chair  
too small for the cat  
by a tail and a leg  
two feet plus two feet  
the cat jumps down  
to the chair's four feet

all the edges  
of a yellow cat  
all cat

*free-to-a-good-home*

turns out to be  
full of kittens

in the dark  
the young cat  
full of kittens

a yellow cat  
stalking the coward  
in the mirror

pacemaker  
old puss purrs  
on his chest

toothbrushes  
the swish of cat claw  
in attack

listening to Mozart  
with her tail over her nose  
the cat's ears flatten

the kittenless cat  
her uneasiness at dusk  
petted by grandma

a radiance  
clinging to the ends  
of cat hair

black and jagged  
in the yellow cat's mouth  
a mewling bird

curled up asleep  
the cat after eating  
a snake

paint brushes  
Lilac the cat drinks  
rose water

the cat  
wants in and out  
April snow

moving tall grass  
on a wind-rippled hill  
cat fur

bird song  
eaten by the silence  
of a cat

the guru speaks  
a cat climbs a ladder  
to sit on the roof

open window  
the cat stares into space  
as the guru speaks

the guru murmurs  
two cats fight  
over a dead bird

violin concert  
the cat scratches her tummy  
and walks out

Beethoven's Fifth  
the cat gives birth  
to another kitten

looking the same  
the now-tuned harp  
well-fed cat

paw print  
catching the morning sun  
in wet sand

a sitting cat  
her one eye reading  
my book

white whiskers  
a spray of milk  
on a pink tongue

a cat dreaming  
her striped tail switches  
into a snake

the old cat  
too sick  
to cover it up

a sliver moon  
sinking into delirium  
the sick cat

among the stars  
unseen planets  
the cat dies

**cats in love**

up and down  
on wooden stairs  
cats in love

howling desert winds  
in salt cedar trees  
mating cats

howling tomcats  
two old guys discussing  
impotence

**chicks**

bulging  
within an egg the chick's  
blind eye

**chickadees**

sprinkles  
between raindrops  
chickadees

**cormorant**

a black rock  
the sea wave explodes  
a crown of cormorants

**cows**

leaving cows  
on a sea cliff meadow  
a tiny man

sea cliff meadows  
heavy fog lifting  
two ... no, ten cows

**crab**

crab balls  
on the menu - no wonder  
they walk funny

**crane**

raising his foot  
a crane scatters stars  
sunk in the pond

**cuckoo**

knowing of cuckoos  
I refuse to send to her  
a Mother's Day card

**eagle**

tense neck muscles  
watching the eagle  
in morning's swift flight

**eggs**

within this egg  
festival of the seventh day  
a heart beats

**fawn**

morning  
wearing the gentle colors  
of baby deer

thunderstorm  
covered with a caul  
the fawn is born

after a thunderstorm  
drops slide down her flanks  
the fawn is born

**firefly**

lightning  
fireflies peek at themselves  
in a puddle

**fish**

a waning moon  
scales of a ling cod  
fly from a knife

carp banners  
in the slipstream  
of spring

young  
the lily pads you can see through  
white *koi* fish  
river ripples  
in the tiniest  
fish scales

## **finches**

chirping here and there  
finches draw magic diagrams  
in the spring air

## **frogs**

a rain barrel  
overflowing  
one frog  
ocean's roar  
a sound in the frog's mouth  
home again  
billowing  
frog voices in spring air  
damask curtains  
scattered clouds  
shaped by frogs  
croaking  
twilight  
neither night nor day  
frogs and bats  
abandoned theater  
the moon spotlights  
a frog-prince  
in the shallows  
a child learns to swim  
by frog eyes  
frogs  
sitting in the river  
all of us  
creaking voice  
frog joints as stiff as mine  
rainy days

pond ripples  
heartbeat of a frozen frog  
warms again

a new puddle  
frogs joining  
old star light

frog silence  
pond shadow  
in my ear

monks chanting  
only at first are they  
still temple frogs

frogs  
naming the first stars  
aloud

quiet waters  
frogs all listening  
to my shower

leaping into the river  
the frog watches me  
still as a rock

## **grunion**

floating the moon  
the silver tide of grunion  
ride on the beach

## **gulls**

sea gulls  
soaring above cliffs  
freshly painted  
morning light  
from dark rock crevices  
gull wings

rounds  
a sea gull circles  
surf songs

high winds  
blowing gulls  
into blue-white

## **hermit crabs**

ebb tide  
shells walking into the sea  
hermit crabs  
a hermit crab  
having for breakfast  
someone else  
borrowed shell  
taking home a fluted whelk  
and hermit crab

## **heifers**

taste of butter  
heifers in the meadow  
sunshine flowers

## **hummingbirds**

spinning mobile  
home to hummingbirds  
unmoved  
humming bird wings  
the rhododendron blossom  
that flutters

## **killdeer**

waiting for the wave  
the killdeer practices  
his cry of surprise

## **kitten**

curtains  
calico  
with kittens

## **lambs**

twin lambs  
newborn in the wide meadow  
stand touching  
evening  
climbing a gentle hill  
lamb and mother  
the cry  
sleet turning to snow  
a newborn lamb



sheep folds  
squeezing out  
a newborn lamb

parting fog  
on wind barren meadows  
birth of a lamb

## **larks**

rivers to the sea  
bending with the songs  
of meadow larks

shell-veined  
breast of a lark swelling  
sea cliff meadows

soaring  
the bird out flies  
its name

## **larva**

bubbles  
larva in pond scum  
fly away

## **limpets**

cold wind  
on the beach only limpets  
feel at home

## **migrating birds' return**

whispering welcome  
to our winter-weary selves  
returning geese

## **milk goats**

goats to be milked  
lower under heavy skies  
bucket cloudy white

## **minnows**

minnows  
rippling river sand  
two-year old toes

spring  
minnows patterned  
by fallen leaves

a point of land  
out in the river  
a minnow

**moth**

cloudy dawn  
on my pillow  
moth wing dust

**nest**

in a mouse nest  
one pink nose  
on a cat  
spring floods  
tiny fishes swimming by  
a bird's nest  
nest  
filled with spring time  
eggs  
forming eggs  
the roundness of a breast  
in a nest  
silence  
around a bird  
the nest  
lady carpenter  
by her house the bluebird  
builds her nest  
within a shell  
eggs laid warm  
in a hollow nest

**nightingale**

shadows hatched  
nightingales  
in morning light

**oyster**

oyster barbecue  
a mother of six watches  
the pile of shells

**pony**

moving into the sun  
the pony takes with him  
some mountain shadow

feeding her ponies  
all of her stories  
the precious hours

the pony's path  
good luck signs  
each step

spring winds  
running over the pasture  
lift the pony's tail

**puppies**

free puppies' eyes  
in dirty store windows  
filmy blue

ebb tide  
a young puppy searching  
for place to pee

**robin**

blushing a bit  
the rising spring sun  
on the robin's breast

at the bird feeder  
robins fighting  
over wives

she doesn't notice  
a child with the doll carriage  
the mother robin

a robin sings  
as if it was he  
who planted the garden

**rooster**

a rooster crows  
by just that much  
the day is longer

## **salamanders**

tiny salamander  
a look as long and ancient  
as your mating

## **sea shells**

silence  
from a sea shell  
a heart's mirror  
a whorled shell  
pale ear pressed in sand  
surf sounds  
in one sky  
x-ray photos of sea shells  
wet wisps of fog

## **sea lions**

sea lions bark  
and then turn back  
the sea is pink  
sea lions bark  
their breath comes ashore  
as mist

## **shorn sheep**

into the sunny meadow  
shorn sheep covered  
with night cold  
after the storm  
small waves on sea meadows  
meek sheep  
days of the week  
sheep enter the fold  
of night  
white waves splash  
on the hillside  
scattered sheep

## **slugs**

sleeping late  
on the doorstep  
two slugs

waiting for rain  
the slow way slugs  
make love

**snails - land**

a phi-based spiral  
unwinds a snail's  
slippery path

**snails - sea**

periwinkles  
signing secret names  
in wet sand

**snake**

following a snake  
the river wiggles  
down canyon  
squatters rights  
debated by the snake  
in the lettuce  
nervous  
the thin weed touched  
by a snake  
winding the road  
a snake  
into a flat tire

**sparrows**

a twitter  
nest-building sparrows  
a passing shower

**spider - spring**

door chimes  
the spring spider moves  
eight legs  
rainbows  
sunlight segmented  
by a spring spider

**starfish**

a day moon  
on glistening low-tide rocks  
golden starfish

lying on the beach  
arms spread - legs together  
a starfish

sailing  
to dream the dreams  
of starfish

curve of the sea  
fitting into the dome of sky  
starfish

starfish  
seeing blue sky  
for the first time

### **stork**

storks have returned  
suddenly this old barn roof  
brooding

### **swallows**

home again  
fluttering in the eaves  
barn swallows

spotlessly clean  
the swallow's nest  
made of mud

from the broken bell  
the chatter of swallows  
nest building

### **tadpoles**

dark barrel  
sun in the tadpole's mouth  
metamorphosing

on the same day  
tadpoles get their hind legs  
bulging eyes

clouds on the pond  
popped by kisses of tadpoles  
coming up for air

## **termites**

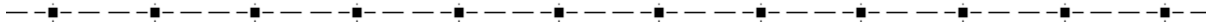
strange faces  
in wind-curved cypress  
termites

## **ticks**

fresh picked  
a bouquet of flowers alive  
with ticks

## **thrush**

pouring drops  
from pitcher to inkstone  
a thrush sings  
rain falling  
the thrush pulls up a worm  
inch by inch



## **SPRING Plants**

### **apple blossoms**

light carried in my arms  
apple blossoms from a neighbor  
on my doorstep  
clusters talking  
together in admiration  
apple blossoms  
sun transformed  
into apple blossoms  
the ground is level  
the dam is broken  
spring cascades into valleys  
as apple blossoms

### **apple trees**

apple trees  
dead white before flowering  
fuzzy buds

spring sunshine  
too-early guests wait  
under budding trees  
abandoned orchard  
desert apple trees bloom  
pioneer spirits

### **beans**

pea soup lunch  
out in garden rows  
planting beans

### **beeches**

without rain  
beech leaves unfolding  
slick and shiny

### **blossoms**

knotted fragrance  
on spring bare branches  
blossoms

cloud blossoms  
brush strokes between clusters  
story-telling branch

silence  
in the blind wind's dance  
blossoms

moonlight  
among blossoming trees  
a white parasol

silence  
the blossoms  
dance

### **bracken**

a cascade  
bracken sprouts unroll  
spring

### **budding birches**

snowy mountains  
green shadows of budding  
birches



mountain curves  
unfolding in new green  
birches

white and thin  
the light of spring  
where buds dare

budding limbs  
clouds raked  
into new trees

## **bushes**

without a word  
each man goes outdoors  
talks to the bushes

late spring  
lawn dwarfs disappearing  
into a leafy bush

## **buds**

shapes of space  
a flower folded  
in a bud

## **California poppy**

expanding the warmth  
the first poppies  
in spring sunshine

## **calla lily**

dizzy  
at the end of its spiral  
calla lily whiteness

late spring  
a dried-up streambed  
full of lilies

on all four sides  
of the long-gone shack  
calla lilies

## **cherry blossoms**

mountain hollow  
in the radiance of fog  
cherry blossoms

hearing bells  
cherry blossoms shaken  
by a breeze

cherry blossoms  
firelight comes down  
to bare earth

fragrant  
the sound of cherry blossoms  
rattled by wind

lace  
on her Sunday dress  
cherry blossoms

cherry trees  
in full bloom he photographs  
his fat wife

amidst the cherries  
he photographs his wife  
the pimple on her nose

cherry blossoms  
their only warmth  
cool in moonlight

still beautiful  
the barren woman admires  
flowering cherry

a young beauty  
cherry trees bloom  
after transplanting

putting smiles  
on cherry blossoms  
photographers

balloon man  
cherry blooms float  
on tree-trunk strings

spring sunshine  
floating among cherry trees  
gay balloons

ah  
the exhaled breath of tourists  
cherry flow-ers

shaming the ladies  
in bright colored clothes  
cherry blossoms  
cherry blossoms  
a truck goes by advertising  
"Wonder Bread"  
cherry blossoms  
permitting picnickers  
a fragrant lunch  
a child  
offers the cherry flowers  
a bite  
after viewing cherries  
he blows up a paper sack  
and pops it  
a bee alights  
on a page of poems  
cherry blossoms  
across the border  
soldiers and a cherry tree  
relatives of mine

### **cherry budding**

a spring nap  
downstream cherry trees  
in bud

### **cherry petals**

a long journey  
some cherry petals  
begin to fall  
garden waterfall  
cherry petals float to earth  
in the sound  
beacon for bees  
a pink and white fan  
of cherry petals  
the fragrance  
filling empty lunch boxes  
cherry petals

waterfalls  
cherry petals  
also

clogging the stream  
the scent of cherry petals  
in the air

old couple sleeping  
under trees twined together  
cherry petals

turning to leave  
cherry petals flutter around  
departing guests

in the remote valley  
spring arrives with hail  
bruised petals

a fire  
above sun-warmed bricks  
cherry petals

pencil poised  
nothing on the paper  
but cherry petals

evening clouds  
tinted pink in clusters  
of cherry petals

weeping willows  
over the stream clogged  
with petals

## **cherry trees**

vacant skies  
cherry trees bloom  
all the white light

pale skies  
cherry trees capture  
all the white light

tree trunks  
dark nails hold festival posters  
cherry time

scarred trunks  
of cherry trees  
a bee walks on

cherry tree trunks  
twisted tapers with white light  
flower fire

Yoshino cherry trees  
nodding over a book  
borrowed from the library

a cooling breeze  
Yoshino cherry trees  
in Santa Rosa

lace on blue sky  
wearing nothing under  
cherry trees

### **daffodils**

old man napping  
in spring sunshine at noon  
daffodils nod too

mile markers  
daffodils gone wild  
on highway one

rejection slip  
the daffodil remains  
unmoved

rainy day  
spilling out of a pitcher  
daffodil sunshine

### **daisy**

sea fog  
the far meadow dusted  
with daisies

### **dandelions**

spring warmth  
dandelions bloom  
more suns

in the shade  
a spot of sun  
a stray dandelion

### **ferns**

under ferns  
the roar of the creek  
seeping in

## **first flowers**

bowing on short stems  
flowers first day of spring  
in the wind

## **flowers**

rain colored  
by the light falling  
into a flower

bedtime  
sea winds laid in  
closed flowers

footprints  
in cracks of granite rocks  
flowers

blushed with pollen  
her nose in a flower  
wet on purpose

## **forget-me-not**

tiny blue stones  
paving the path to you  
forget-me-nots

## **fuchsias**

morning sun  
finding the fuchsia  
already pink

## **gardens**

garden dreaming  
the many shapes and colors  
with fragrance

## **grass - new**

March snow  
footprints turning back  
into grass  
new grass  
echoing from yard to yard  
lawn mowers

## **green**

green  
the knowing name  
of glen spirits  
redwood  
when one is cut  
green sprouts  
spirit dwelling  
holes in rocks  
sprouting green

## **hawthorn**

hawthorn hedgerow  
on new-ploughed earth  
scattered petals

## **iris**

a roundness  
pushing outward  
the iris opens  
this iris opens  
the furled flag  
of other worlds  
blooming/withering  
on one straight stalk  
iris  
a ballerina  
unfolding the iris  
other music  
never known to bees  
the iris withers in rooms  
of a maiden aunt  
on a stalk  
the butterfly wings  
an iris  
waiting with it  
one iris withers  
evening  
opening  
the iris  
the poem

iris blooming  
the seventh one opens  
differently

sky  
entering the iris  
as it opens

eyes  
enter the iris  
open wide

a breeze  
bumping blossoms  
bees

folding paper  
the faded iris  
withers

shape-changing  
in the witch's eye  
an iris opens

arching  
the iris opens  
a rainbow

spreading sepals  
one more poem  
opens the iris

windfall  
the broken iris blooms  
high in a vase

iris blooms  
leaving the clear calyx  
its purple touch

messages moving  
without muscles  
iris fragrance

a blue cup  
on the table an iris  
half open

fading the colors  
of a peacock feather  
an iris blooms



applause  
sepals of the iris  
unclapping  
eyes in secret places  
deep in the purple middle  
of an iris  
eyes  
on the purple petals  
of iris  
eyes  
entering the iris  
half-closed  
trinity in  
blue, gold and purple  
iris  
listening for purple  
the iris opens  
with a pop  
a shared shape  
iris leaves  
swollen with buds  
purple blue  
without moving a muscle  
the iris opens  
all male  
even when in bloom  
bearded iris  
blue iris  
pool rippled water  
in the leaves  
her anger  
painting the iris black  
the child in her

## **lupine**

sea side meadows  
ocean's lupine  
a deeper purple  
last light  
the brightness of lupine  
growing low

**lettuce**

home-grown lettuce  
the taste of well water  
green

**lilac**

a hill  
under a cloud  
of lilac  
between the fields  
a break in the evening mist  
three lilac bushes

**lilies**

light  
buried in a bulb  
lilies

**magnolia**

snow melting  
magnolia buds  
higher

**mimosa**

sunlight  
taking just one spray  
of mimosa

**miner's lettuce**

two sides of a pond  
here miner's lettuce  
there a skim of ice

**narcissus**

sea cliff meadows  
the bull sneezes  
narcissus

**new leaves**

silence  
columns of earth sprouting  
new leaves  
spring  
morning finds a new sign  
on every leaf

leafing trees  
in evening's purple glow  
no longer bare

filling  
a spring-flooded river  
new green leaves

edges of oak  
extended by new leaves  
bright as blossoms

sea wind  
pushing up the mountain  
new green leaves

pale light  
cool in the dim forest  
new leaves

### **onion sets**

planting onion sets  
the roar of surf  
that much louder

onions planted  
pushed into soft earth  
bombs in Libya

### **pansies**

pansies  
in a canning jar  
baby photos

peeping through snow  
the folded up faces  
of pansies

### **peas**

winter ends  
a row of peas covered  
with earth

### **plum blossoms**

plum blossoms  
the smell of white sheets  
with white...

plum blossoms  
a fragrance in the air  
star-shaped

plum tree  
remembering us  
that time

plum tree  
throwing off its bareness  
pure white perfume  
where sleep the birds  
with dry feathers  
a white-plum night

**primrose**

primrosed  
the spring sun  
among green leaves  
days measured  
by wild primrose clocks  
crocus calendars

**radishes**

in the mailbox  
a bunch of radishes  
from a neighbor  
roots of radishes  
sand caught in tiny hairs  
her laughing lips

**pussy willows**

gone fishing  
the only takers  
pussy willows

**redbud**

bed springs creak  
by snow-melt freshets  
a redbud branch

**rhododendron**

far from malls  
city women in the woods  
pick rhododendron

It's May  
the somber pine forest  
pink with rhodies

mountain bouquet  
the whole forest full  
of rhodies

raindrops  
opening rhododendrons  
at dusk

outdoor shower  
rhododendrons stare  
at my nipples

leave the laundry  
rhododendrons can be  
our bright colors

chattering visitors  
finally silent before  
the rhododendron

fog  
the first rhodie  
fades

after blooming  
the rhododendron bushes  
sink back into the woods

## **roots**

root circle  
a pool of water  
growing in a tree

dark soil  
pushed from a seed  
a blind root

spring rain  
a dance with tiny steps  
of tree roots growing

## **rose**

white rose petals  
transparent in the night sky  
a not-round moon

fragrance  
tied in a knot  
rosebuds

curling  
painted roses  
where the roof leaks

**safflower**

a field of safflower  
there at the top of the hill  
leaning on the sky

**saplings**

dead cypress  
in its wind-shadow  
saplings  
transplanted  
saplings from the far ridge  
all these thoughts

**scotch broom**

between rain  
showers the slanted rays  
of the scotch bloom

**sea weed**

escaping spring  
tangled in sea weed  
a sharp smell  
blue sky held by  
still wet laver leaves  
held by a rock

**seeds**

under the earth  
newly planted seeds  
part of the moonrise

**seedlings**

seedling  
larger by a drop of water  
caught on its leaf  
an arched back  
the seedling bursts  
into the light

## **shepherd's purse**

shepherd's purse  
growing as high  
as my hip pocket

## **strawberries**

bending low  
a heart leans to the soil  
picking strawberries

## **tendrils**

early morning  
vine tendrils curl and hold  
the day still

## **trees**

river veins  
and tree root muscles  
green leaf skin

trees held together  
upright white pillars  
of light

silence in wood  
between the growing  
rings

everything green  
yet some trees naked  
with moss

cold light of day  
it makes the trees stop  
night whispers

whirlpools  
from earth to sky  
tree sap

## **trillium**

deep in the woods  
the May month trillium  
deep in a dream

## **tulips**

tulip fields  
the elegance of folk  
wearing wooden shoes

standing before  
a wide field of flowers  
one tulip

bright by the candle  
the tulips also  
are burning

### **wild flowers**

picking wild flowers  
the early spring sun  
in my hand

wild flowers  
abandoned by the road  
a strange car

sea fragrance  
rising from the cliff  
breath of wild flowers

desert  
wild flower colors  
all rock

a meadow  
made by a violin  
wild flower notes

### **wild lilac**

puffs of smoke  
logging trucks' exhaust  
among wild lilac

hillsides  
clouds in the bushes  
of wild lilac

lost on the mountain  
the smell of wild lilac  
sickening sweet

### **wild mustard**

sunshine  
caught by wild mustard  
passed to the gorse

### **wild plum**

ancestors  
the wild plum  
blooms again



## willows

time  
unmeasured by willows  
swaying

water-dowsing  
the willows tremble  
in spring floods

slanted sunshine  
the river breaks and dapples  
beneath the willows

spring rains  
the willow strings  
raindrops

long hard rain  
hanging in the willows  
tender new leaves

spring  
high in the willows  
flood waters

wind murmuring  
as it spreads pollen  
the arched willow

nude beach  
the first ones out  
pussy willows

spring bare sun  
by winter's high waters  
willows laid low

water witching  
willow wands  
bend the river

willow shadows  
the length of a nap  
on the river bank

contrails  
pussy willows fluff  
in spring skies

moraine crevasses  
a line of willows  
winding the creek

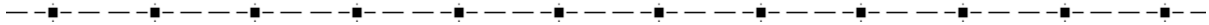
river willow  
heavy drops on  
glistening wands

willow branches  
holding together  
raindrops

April storms  
green willow wands  
sweeping snow

**young leaves**

**spring rain  
young leaves the fragrance  
of moistened soil**



**This ends the SPRING section of *A Dictionary of Haiku* by Jane Reichhold.**

### **SUMMER Moods**

**being loved**

wind perfumed  
from a woman's shoulder  
desert night

**after loving**

leaving the beach  
only she has sand  
on her back

sand  
where lovers laid  
a shallow depression

summer sun  
drops of sweat mingle  
with sperm

eyelids closed  
the naked sleepers  
curled into fish

lying naked  
open to summer stars  
this old couple

the whole bed  
yet he lays his head  
in my hand

sea fog  
hiding morning-mussed hair  
places you've kissed  
sweeping the floor  
sunrise on papers  
left by lovers

## **anger**

he's angry again  
alone on the porch  
with a red star

hot air  
his arguments  
on my face

crumpled silence  
after the argument  
moth wings

our angry silence  
old faithful geyser  
blows off steam

this heat  
the harp too  
out of tune

the neighbor lady  
scolding her child  
is also god

## **being lazy**

picking up sleep  
where you left it at dawn  
afternoon nap

sun from the east  
ocean waves from the west  
our entertainment

## **dancing**

dancing on the beach  
I jab a stick into the sky  
to break up the blue

white dance  
in the beach walk skirt  
folds of moonlight  
I come to you clothed  
only in the dampness of fog  
and our dancing

**delight in the new**

hard glances  
the sun on the sea  
a virile man  
she  
showing him a sea cave  
and more  
almond nails  
pressed into brown skin  
a faint perfume  
moon lights  
houses of hermit crabs  
my damp blanket

**desire to travel**

star paths  
the tender roots  
of passion  
voices  
bridging the stream  
stepping stones  
your voice  
tying me to the desert  
toast pops up  
airport phone call  
the heart leaves  
without luggage  
flying  
the mountains bend down  
to our meeting

**dread of autumn**

*koi* dart and hide  
from the net dipped  
coming of autumn

departing summer  
and when it's gone  
the river's low  
one leaf floats  
in the sand castle's moat  
end of summer  
circus acrobats  
come to the end of summer  
leaping and falling

## **dreaming**

asleep in a boat  
to dream the dreams  
of water lilies  
desert nights  
the clarity of dreams  
warm and real  
dream dancer  
sleeping without a pillow  
on scarred boards  
remembering a dream  
and then the circus  
was over  
eyes closed  
knowing by heart  
the rest

– *for Virgilio*

–

## **enjoyment**

days so complete  
words become the calls of birds  
the high tide wind  
only borrowed  
this summer day  
this beach  
wet silk  
cupping her breast  
night river  
outdoor shower  
bathed in sun colors  
of hot water

slipping into the pool  
naked divides the night  
sun-warmed waters  
gentle nights  
of desert wind  
a woman's breast  
touching myself  
your name  
on my lips  
placing the flute  
against her lips something  
slips into place

### **fickleness**

British pub  
an unfaithful man blows  
suds from his beer  
getting into bed  
the stranger  
even browner  
eating melon  
bites given on the point  
of his knife

### **fullness**

the blood circle  
mother and daughter wading  
in the surf  
I'm not old  
all night my eyes have held  
the ancient stars  
with the ocean's roar  
I climb the hills home  
not alone  
sweeping bare floors  
the summer empty cabin  
very full

### **happiness**

glowing  
a flag unfurls  
native happiness

long summer day  
how many animals  
I've been  
on a bright sunny day  
comes your smiling face  
light added to light  
just two stars  
yet our eyes are closed  
in ecstasy  
high cliff  
the heart beats the blue sky  
like a flaying stick

### **kissing**

kissing  
together in a glass  
our toothbrushes  
desert kisses  
hotter  
than ever before  
morning stars fade  
waking a small bird  
our lips

### **laughter**

summer night  
empty mountain road filled  
with our laughter

*- for Kenichi Sato*

laughter added to the heat  
my lover's farts can't kill  
mosquitoes  
angel wings  
propelled through the air  
by laughter

### **loving**

tongue  
tasting  
pink  
shapes  
pure light the face  
of a loved one

blue spots  
tattooed with love  
from his teeth

lovers  
pulse of fire gods  
in bubbling waters

lovers  
cradled in caves  
lovers

hot tongues  
the little language  
of lovers

lovers  
the lamplighted lane  
a way away

nights  
the grove of little trees  
swollen with lovers

moon white water  
lovers in the secret cove  
Saturday night

just as tangled  
paths in the berry patch  
lovers

lovers  
heat of a summer night  
fill the moon

making love  
the unevenness of boards  
on the porch

skin  
touching  
whispers

a butterfly  
from your finger  
light touches

following wet tracks  
into the secret garden  
he enters



hovering hums  
mosquitoes watch us  
making love

## **memories**

packing  
between unworn shirts  
sea sounds  
moments of forever  
beach day chitin  
fossil in lava  
gazing into fires  
seals in my mind  
wind-water pictures  
red marks  
from your white teeth  
mosquito bites  
curving sandstone cliffs  
the yellow school bus  
where time stands still  
memories  
over a river of sunlight  
a time bridge

## **oneness**

the narrow bed  
we breath each other  
all afternoon  
on bare arms  
the noon-day sun melted  
hot metal sweet  
before the summer storm  
rises the close smell  
of two skins  
after paying  
the whore seems to be  
someone's sister  
applause  
scenery painted  
by a one-armed boy

**openness**

company's coming  
over-friendly flies  
buzzing at the door

prostitute  
now a freeway rest area  
her mother's home

**outdoor fun**

finally it's Friday  
the passion flower blooms  
wrinkling the bedspread

crawling on the bed  
tendrils of passion flowers  
thick on the porch

shadows of leaves  
cover the open holes  
her flute forgotten

the sun and hunger  
watches without winding  
on a summer day

**panic**

tourist fear  
the ocean will ruin  
Land's End clothes

clasped hands  
holding the nervousness in  
his thumbs

in rain in sun  
how do you run from your hours  
window box zinnia?

shelling peas  
the pregnant woman asks  
"Is forty old?"

silence  
in a knot hole  
stares

**pride**

traveling through  
Basho in your town  
you in mine

**relaxed**

beach party  
losing in the sand  
her many years  
  
a world closed  
the roar of surf  
plugs my ears  
  
quiet evening  
all the wind  
back in the flute  
  
on vacation  
the summer sun  
far out to sea

**relief**

summer stars  
finding all the familiar things  
edged with morning  
  
campfire embers  
all the demons nearly gone  
in the morning sun  
  
distance softens  
and rounds the hills  
our relationship

**satisfaction**

his penis in her  
lightning strikes  
very close  
  
a gentle rain  
in me  
your poems  
  
curve of a wave  
holding perfect  
a summer day  
  
satisfaction  
the cooling breeze  
between lovers  
  
my head  
resting on the pillow  
of your voice

we share these hours  
gifts with many small parts  
complete together  
beaches where no one goes  
their share of sand  
gentle waves  
tiny cabin  
distant shelter of woods  
and sky within me

**temptation**

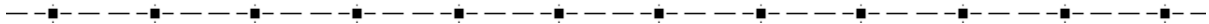
caught between rocks  
seaweed in the rising tide  
seems to wave to me  
smooth sand  
following waves  
back to the sea

**tired**

summer weary  
the sky leans down an arch  
of cypress  
asleep  
holding your breath  
in my hand

**wanting to be loved**

beach-blown  
my sea-foam body  
awaits your hand  
hot night  
legs spread wide  
where sleep should be  
neon lights blink  
glances pass underneath  
dark lashes  
hung over the bed  
the unpainted painting  
mosquito netting



## SUMMER Occasions

### circus

swirling dust  
excitement flickers  
within the tent

circus  
red flags flutter  
hearts

acrobats  
unfolding the circus tent  
first

outdoor circus  
in the center ring  
a butterfly

juggling sunshine  
on clapping hands  
little red hearts

outdoor circus  
sun on the brightest costumes  
fading

family circus  
acrobats lifted high  
on joined hands

champion  
on the flying trapeze  
a butterfly

hearts flying  
on the high trapeze  
a blond young man

trapeze artists  
catching the sun  
each other

mountain village  
in the one-ring circus  
a balance act

juggler  
the children's eyes  
in his hands

juggling illusions  
the circus man  
with many balls

circus bleachers  
old enemies crowd  
close together

circus  
backstage the heat  
everyone squirms

tinsel flash  
under shiny sweat  
goose bumps

magic act  
wondering where the scarf went  
when the wind blew

high wire act  
on the ground children dance  
arms outstretched

intermission  
all the real clowns stand up  
and smile

between acts  
the quiet music  
of bowing trees

clown act  
without a tent  
the wind as wild

part of the joke  
clapping for stagehands  
who fix the pole

empty morning light  
the trampled grass circle  
of the circus tent

## **dog days**

dog days  
a bitch in heat  
laceless shoes

## Flag Day

a field of stars  
square and curved  
the American flag

sea winds  
cutting into a blue sky  
a square of flag

## Fourth of July

Independence Day  
all the fireworks  
in your eyes

sparklers  
in the night sky  
stars

sun burnt  
and from fireworks  
star-crazy

patriots  
etched in their eyes  
sparklers

sea shells  
and sky rockets  
beach holiday

another wave  
the last sparkler  
a bent wire

Independence Day  
the empty flagpole  
poking stars

Independence Day  
the lower road bridge  
collapses

two crows  
and a sea gull having someone  
else's picnic

Independence Day  
the county courthouse  
blown sky-high

*-Point Arena's Hall of Justice*

Independence Day  
the parade majorette  
with the shorter skirt

holiday  
a marshmallow wind  
on browning bodies

5th of July  
the portable ice chest  
drying inside out

## **school's out**

a single mom  
the paper days until  
school is out

summer breeze  
the shouts out of school  
children again

summer skies  
the clearness of children's voices  
out of school

school picnic  
someone very young teaches him  
to boogie

school picnic  
the ticket seller raises her fingers  
as she adds

## **Summer Solstice**

Mid-summer's Eve  
lately bracken fern  
invisible

mid-summer  
day and night balanced  
no wind

a broken shoe string  
summer begins  
barefoot

holes in the hammock  
thoughts run through  
my mind unfiltered



black pine  
against the never dark sky  
Mid-summer's Eve

Midsummer's Eve  
her brief white gown  
shortens the night

### **Tanabata**

*- a Japanese holiday to celebrate  
stars and romance*

Tanabata  
and beside me tonight  
an empty pillow

### **vacation**

seaside vacation  
unwinding the kite string  
unwinding

in desert sand  
cinder temples seem to be  
from China

Grand Canyon  
tourists sucked out of California  
by a big hole

Grand Canyon  
deeper with each camera click  
the tourists' smile

in the roar  
of Yosemite Falls photos  
kids' scared smiles

under Cathedral Spires  
two ancient Sequoias  
and a trash bin

quacking ducks  
on my favorite beach  
tourists coming

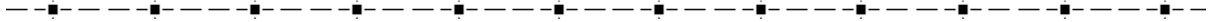
clouds come and go  
just as quickly on the beach  
tourists

Lake Tahoe  
tired eyes stare down  
at a tiny rivulet  
desert poverty  
even dirt has been left  
in the casino  
bare tops  
Death Valley tourists  
on a hot day  
tourists  
overlooking Badwater  
each with a Coke  
tourists in Italy  
Pan's pipes and the Crucifix  
in one museum  
out-of-season tourists  
at San Juan Capistrano  
hummingbirds  
scenic spots  
full of a century  
of tourists' eyes  
mountain gorge  
before the great view falling  
asleep  
snobbish hotel  
the rusty old cars  
of employees  
around the pool  
their nipples exposed  
men!  
mountain river  
shriveled to harmlessness  
summer tourists  
surf sounds  
then my motel neighbor  
turns off the shower  
lying on the bed  
layered with other lives  
motel night

motel morning  
the strange bird's song  
in another migration

vacation  
finally relaxing  
fog dissolves

vacation ends  
one last splash of a wave  
I am gone too



## **SUMMER Celestial**

### **afternoon**

drowsy-colored  
the summer afternoon  
weighs nothing

### **air**

desert air  
invisible smoke of sagebrush  
clear

softness  
desert air flows  
through giant rocks

### **breeze**

coming to sea cliffs  
the off-shore breeze raises  
a flower fragrance

### **cloud**

beach tent billows  
in the summer blue  
white clouds

desert sounds  
out of the sun's way  
clouds moving

morning downpour  
raised to new heights  
afternoon clouds

dancing lights  
clouds sprinkle the sun  
across water

clouds  
colored by open wall  
a driftwood lair

curving with the land  
a rainbow of clouds  
moves out to sea

ocean clouds  
here and there  
a sailor's wish

sea clouds  
film long exposed to  
a white water river

shell-shaped  
the highest peaks  
swirl clouds

majestic peaks  
making majestic clouds  
we shield our eyes

clouds  
canyon walls  
of Yosemite

thunder  
rolling up the mountain  
great white clouds

after the rain  
breathing deeply  
white valley clouds

western peaks  
the last clouds  
set afire

## **coolness**

between boards  
shadows on a sunny porch  
a slender coolness

light  
rippling the lake  
with coolness

the August moon  
rises with the coolness  
of a thunderstorm

**daylight**

daylight  
in paths of falling stars  
flights of birds

**day moon**

alone  
climbing the afternoon peaks  
the day moon

**day stars**

sparkling  
on bright water  
unseen day stars

**dawn**

first light  
pouring into lava mountains  
cloud red  
dawn  
with the light  
winds

**dew**

morning sun  
the twinkle of stars  
still in the dew

**downpour**

sudden downpour  
now we outdoor folks  
own a waterbed

**drought**

drought white  
a withered tree hangs  
over the bath tub  
unearthly  
silence of a drought year  
drying

constipation  
from dry desert winds  
only farts

rustling on the roof  
leaves of a drought year  
in the rain gutter

## **fog**

behind me  
fog closes in  
the Golden Gate

ocean fog  
hangs in the pine trees  
a white hammock

sunrise finds  
fog in the valleys  
fingers in sand

fog  
the sun and I shout  
the morning

evening fog  
a door slams  
softly

## **heat**

crackle of paper  
an afternoon of shopping  
the heat

hot night  
sleep too  
has melted

## **heat shimmer**

vibrating crystals  
the heat  
moving mountains

## **heat waves**

heat waves  
bringing to the desert  
an ocean view

heat wave  
the nautilus shell  
unwinds

## horizon

a high wave  
bumping the horizon  
curled by blue

evening  
drawing a line of pink  
mountains

on the horizon  
waves by the buoy  
bump the sky

## hot day

incoming tide  
covers sun blackened rocks  
with a hot day

sun in a towel  
drying a wet body  
the hot day

## light

summer light  
spun into a handmade rug  
lambs wool

gazing at sunset  
the dark road home  
filled with light

last light  
rising out of the cliff  
seven gulls

today's light  
goes into the sea  
an open window

## lightning

power lines  
lacing the sky  
with electricity

out of darkness  
that covers stars  
lightning

forked lightning  
the river begins  
in the sky

car lights curve  
nights along the coast  
flashes of lightning

in a streak  
lightning across the floor  
a scorpion

## **long day**

long day  
waiting for the cove  
to fill with water

longer day  
the sun lingers  
in the warmth

## **moonlight**

moonlight  
unfolded from clean sheets  
covers the bed

moonlight  
a child's high voice  
above the darkness

## **morning**

pink and blue  
birth of ocean-sky  
morning

nearly awake  
sea-gathered morning  
on sleeping faces

morning light  
things of the day  
taking shape

morning light  
the open eyes  
of basket shadows

springing up  
into colorful cliffs  
morning sun



morning winds  
eases the slender moon  
from the ridge

**noon**

noon clouds  
on lava mountains  
burned shapes

noon clouds  
a dark spirit shape  
on lava buttes

noon sun  
straight down  
the steep cliff

noon  
turning low hills  
into clouds

noon-day sun  
rolling the fog out to sea  
the round ball

**night**

as night  
the bump and thump  
of ocean waves

night lights  
in the secret cove  
moonlit sea foam

nights  
showing us inside  
mountains

desert lake  
night enters the blue  
coolness

evening skies  
in a high mountain lake  
open to night

nights  
a window  
to another world

## **partly cloudy**

partly cloudy  
packing the few things  
to leave the ocean

## **rains**

summer rains  
the umbrella also  
wet waiting for you

vacation  
the weather report  
all wet

summer rains  
drumming  
your fingers in me

rain stops  
we sleep  
still dripping

whisper of rain  
on a sunny day the surf  
wets my feet

late summer rain  
surprising  
an open window

rain lets up  
colors come to life  
with a breath of wind

## **rainbow**

clouds  
curved in sea foam  
rainbows

waterfall  
completing the rainbow  
a woman's body

waterfall  
coming apart  
rainbows

rainbow hour  
across the lake  
mountains of sun

out of a wave  
rainbows of high tide  
arching wind

### **rain clouds**

under rain clouds  
the far valley full of light  
at sunset

broken rain clouds  
one sunset slips  
into another

broken rain clouds  
slanted sunset light  
moving mountains

low clouds  
skirting the mountain  
a line of white

ragged rain clouds  
blurring the sharpness  
of lava peaks

### **rain drops**

sweeping the porch  
bright prints of raindrops  
followed by splashes

desert wash  
variegated stones speckled  
with raindrops

hot humid day  
in a sudden breeze  
raindrops of wind chimes

wind  
in a dry riverbed  
raindrops

### **rising sun**

towers of rising sun  
spread over the dark lake  
wispy clouds

### **short night**

short night  
colors of a sighing  
in the wind

## **sky**

painting skies  
soft hills brush clouds  
warm colors

evening colors  
fire rock mountains  
enter the sky

evening skies  
the pink of hills rises  
above them

evening blue  
shadows from the hills  
float to the sky

without stars  
the sky eases pink  
into the lake

drifting out to sea  
sky colors warmed  
in the hills

between the two elms  
how that patch of blue changes  
in the high wind

## **south wind**

a south wind  
the yellow cat lies down  
under a chair

## **solar eclipse**

fire-white halo  
at the moment of eclipse  
I notice your face

solar dust  
visible during eclipse  
all over the room

dappled forest floor  
the eclipsed sun  
in a myriad of leaves

under trees  
a thousand crescent suns  
eclipsed by leaves

## stars

spindrift  
falling into the sea  
stars

between stars  
harp chords stringing  
unearthly lights

sleepless  
another bright star descends  
into sea mist

glass in granite  
tide pools glitter  
stars

all the stars  
at my feet  
the flashlight wavers

crossing darkness  
of deep space  
each star

flat sea night  
faint wake of clear eyes  
gazing star to star

Venus and the moon  
in conjunction with  
my blankets and me  
twinkling with laughter  
stars

my old flashlight  
low desert campfire  
a shower of sparks  
again stars

white water  
the path to the valley  
full of stars

a window opens  
on the midnight sea  
all the stars

a shower of stars  
dampened by the roar  
of a wave

a rim  
of wild foaming surf  
crab nebula

high winds  
stars spinning by  
in perfect circles

Venus  
watching you sleep  
with me

into the sea  
a shower of stars  
dark edge of land

night sky  
so filled with stars  
gulls do sleep

open window  
stars drift in  
on sea mist

stars  
in a basket broken  
on white stones

my staring eyes  
creating in the night sky  
one star after another

stars  
scratched in the night  
light wheels

sunset  
the show begins  
with stars

velvet nights  
the desert wind  
warm with stars

a blaze  
out of the big dipper  
a shooting star

sharing the night  
atop a remote mountain  
the brightest star

extinguished  
a candle leaves the night  
filled with stars

summer night  
every star  
also hot

hot night  
all the stars out  
naked

counting stars  
these two small eyes  
close in sleep

night of stars  
on her lips his  
stars of night

twinkling stars  
splashes of light  
on dark wet oars

August night  
the melon moon seeding  
the stars

riddles  
the stars  
answer

woods so still  
one can hear the stars  
burning close

## **storm**

storm purple hills  
grass green hills pinned  
with a wet blue fence

## **summer moon**

summer moon  
feeling our love  
warm the night  
summer moon  
in our eyes  
only each other

summer moon  
listening to our words  
hides in the pines  
summer moon-viewing  
kids squat in a circle  
to knuckle-shoot marbles  
meeting the moon  
on ash meadows  
summer hiker  
melted a hole  
the moon slipped in  
a summer sky  
summer moon  
on the tails of fireflies  
fire flies  
summer moon  
a jar of fireflies  
by a sleeping child  
hot weather  
the inflated moon rises  
in the heat

**sun**

seaside sun  
burnished by waves  
salt air  
hot tub  
a blazing sun  
enters the ocean  
rolling east to west  
the desert sun flattens  
low hills  
cooling shadows  
the curve of rock  
around the sun  
desert sun  
greeting the morning  
in a hot tub  
purple skies  
melting into lava peaks  
sun glow



without wind  
desert sun slides into  
the narrowest crack

dark brown  
the desert sun tans  
wooden buildings

golden granite  
rolls to the horizon  
a desert sun

desert sun  
on leafless things  
growing

## **sunrise**

cloudy sunrise  
all the bird song colors  
on rounded raindrops

a warm glow  
over lava mountains  
sunrise

morning rise  
the desert sun comes  
cooled

to return  
to this place the sun  
rises higher

## **sunset**

waiting for sunset  
the eastern hills redden  
at our impatience

sunset  
from below the canyon  
night

sunset clouds  
Grand Canyon  
in the sky

sunsets  
below the canyon rim  
another world

sunset  
snapping twigs  
a campfire  
warm/cool  
the mountain/valley  
sunset/moonrise  
blood-red skies  
sweeping out to sea  
sunset  
sunset  
lava mountain  
fires again  
incoming tide  
to cover wet rocks  
the glare of sunset  
sunset  
beyond land's end  
fire into water  
Pacific rimmed  
fire explodes into water  
sunset sky  
sunset  
a hunter hawk drops  
back into his shadow  
setting sun  
on riverside cabins  
windows of water  
back in their cars  
sunset leaves  
in the tourist's eyes  
sunsets  
into a valley  
a column of light  
sunset  
a vacation ends  
in the sea  
red hot skies  
coming home at sunset  
fire gods

on the stairs  
the sinking sun  
climbs up again

sunset  
a western range rises  
as night sky

## **sunshine**

sunshine  
a path through mountains  
east to west

beach houses  
blowing bright sunshine  
between them

desert salt lake  
preserving the last  
sunlight

off and on  
the message of sunlight  
on a calm lake

sunlight  
the yellow tablecloth  
rumpled by our laughter

## **sunspots**

blown about  
by magnetic storms  
sun spots draw us

## **thunder**

stuttering  
rolls from hill to hill  
thunder

Yosemite falls  
thunderheads gather  
more at the top

electricity  
into tree roots  
thunder

heavy thunder  
dropping down  
of light rain

## **thunderstorm**

thunderstorm  
yet on the far ridge sunset  
perfect stillness

thunderstorm  
in the stovepipe  
soot falls

old film  
on remote mountain TV  
thunder and lightning

quiet now  
everyone talking  
about the thunderstorm

## **twilight**

twilight  
some of the light underwater  
in a white stone

## **wind**

wind time  
desert clouds blow  
light into sunrise

desert wind  
pale blue shadow  
moving slightly

desert winds  
blowing mountains  
into the sun

summer winds  
lined by the appetites  
of spiders

rock formations  
someone in the wind  
with a fantasy

sunset winds  
a screen door opens  
and closes itself

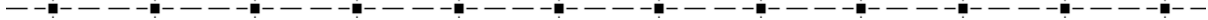
## **wind - cool**

red rock walls  
the cool wind  
as wide as holes

curved  
blue side of the rock  
of cool winds

**wind - warm**

warm wind  
children's voices  
melt in the night



## **SUMMER Terrestrial**

**bay**

a quiet bay  
with seaweed and rocks  
the sun at rest

**beach**

a forest walk  
ending at the beach  
roots

morning beach  
blue sand still quiet  
in the tracks

cold wind  
on the beach  
foam fans

beach fire  
flowing into waves  
flames

rushing in - rushing out  
the wave's mini-vacation  
on the beach

darkening beach  
the warmth of a person's eyes  
for the sinking sun

scattered in sand  
embers of a saltwood fire  
face to face with stars

shell beach  
wind blowing through  
a train whistle

city folks  
playing on the beach  
board games

city voices  
on the beach  
the litter

sunny day  
blown on the beach  
clouds of sea foam

damp beach sand  
where a naked witch squats  
her heart

lonely beach walk  
losing in the sand  
car keys

tracking  
the cliff-bound beach  
noon clouds

beach fire  
pale calla lilies  
flame bright

again on the beach  
drifting with dreams  
she tracks sand

the beach  
blowing sand  
in water colors

a windless day  
the beach colored  
sea foam

pocket beach  
after the climb back up  
sand in mine

gravel beaches  
the corners of the river  
elbowing

summer fog  
the beach wrapped up  
in itself

**bridge**

wooden bridge  
words found by a splinter  
in bare feet

bridge timbers  
a rumble in the creek  
flowing under them

bridge song  
vocal chords  
of the river

**brook**

meandering brook  
my good intentions  
melting away

**canyon**

canyon wash  
clean  
and dry

canyon  
closing out  
sea sounds

rain-torn  
canyon walls  
catch the sun

canyon walls  
slip into the valley  
river gravel

noon clouds  
finding in the canyon  
opals

wall by wall  
the canyon releases blue rock  
deep night sky

box canyon  
in a dried up wash  
ancient river rock

ancient river rock  
running once again  
down a muddy canyon

paint box canyon  
the river a rainbow  
of rocks

oldest rose  
stone canyon walls  
folded in time

## **caves**

cave walls  
turning to sand  
footprints

translucent wall  
in the sea cave  
a shell

## **cliff**

avalanche  
blue sky presses  
into the cliffs

cliffs  
sloping into the sea  
gull wings

sheer beauty  
cliffs drop straight down  
raising spirits

taking sunshine  
into a secret cove  
steepest cliffs

green growing  
steeper than seacliff meadows  
a lush smell

## **coastal range**

coast ranges  
distance spills  
into the sea

## **cove**

leaping up  
a wave comes into  
a secret cove



cupping the eye  
the quiet cove  
on a rocky coast

**crater**

Uhebehe Crater\*  
the inverted mountain  
made of wind

*\* in Death Valley, California*

crater rim  
our kissing  
with open mouths

**creek**

taken by a creek  
both feet exploring  
wet

**desert**

desert  
flapping in the wind  
the whole town

desert  
a stretched horizon  
of silence

desert town  
tropical fish store  
well stocked

*- Twenty-Nine Palms, California*

**dunes**

sand  
curing the glare  
high noon

sand dunes rimmed  
creosote bushes bloom  
sunset colors

rain-wet dunes  
scraped with yellow light  
of sunset showers

noon shadows  
following the contours  
of desert dunes

living in desert dunes  
the ups and downs  
of curved sand  
hot spring  
in desert dunes noon  
memory  
dunes  
mountain peaks  
as hot and dry  
retreating  
from the eastern world  
coastal dunes  
night dunes  
in the warm places  
ants

**dust**

drought  
on the way to church  
dust devils in the road

**earthquake**

earth  
awake  
quake  
remodeling plans  
the whole house sways  
earthquake!  
trembling  
the earth touches  
us all  
shoreline highway  
moving over the sea cliff  
off shore rocks  
earthquake  
in the Thrifty drug store  
prices fall

**harbor**

beyond the bar  
dancing lights the sun  
in the harbor

## **hills**

the hills  
touching each other  
at the river

*-(one of my favorite haiku of mine)*

washed  
hills dribble down  
muddy waters

painted hills  
morning freshens  
the colors

hills  
mounding up a cloud  
full of thunder

dirt-poor farmer  
high on the hill  
a priceless ocean view

mountain woman  
cadence of rolling hills  
in her breast

*- for Marlene Mountain*

## **hot springs**

desert storm  
from underground  
hot bubbling water

hot springs  
not far from the desert sun  
fire spirits

bubbling hot springs  
in dry desert sands  
fire opals

between us  
hot springs salt water  
our electricity

hot springs  
soaking from earth  
happy bodies

desert nights  
in the hot springs  
all the lives

nights  
in the hot tub  
dreams

soaked in hot springs  
crystal-filled waters  
home in the stars

mineral hot springs  
all day wearing crystals  
bare

islands  
white bones  
rolled between islands

stars  
sprinkling in the sea  
islands

## **land's end**

land's end  
a rock crumbles  
in damp sand

sweeping  
out to the lighthouse  
a long sand beach

## **landslide**

landslide  
years slipping away  
from the cliffs

landslide  
the cliff reveals  
its other age

## **lake**

leaving  
the lake waters  
calm

valley lake  
below sea level  
dried salt

dark blue  
coolness crosses the lake  
in ripples

without stars  
the sky eases pink  
into the lake

## **meadow**

meadow knowledge  
by sleeping on the ground  
death isn't bad  
foaming between rocks  
fragrance of seaside meadows  
at high tide  
the stillness  
between tides  
meadow fragrance  
midnight meadow  
lying in moonshadows  
poison ivy

## **mountain**

turning the earth  
as mountains rise  
they crumble  
riverside cliffs  
the current recycles  
mountains  
jagged blue  
flames of evening  
mountain peaks  
lost paint box  
mountains have borrowed  
all the colors  
desert misers  
in a wide blue sky  
one low mountain  
lying in a meadow  
kneecap to kneecap  
with the mountain  
desert  
hoarding  
mountains

morning mountain top  
my shadow crosses  
Death Valley

jagged mountain peaks  
sharpening my pencil  
for another scribble

snow mountain lake  
desert river damned  
LA toasters toast toast

noon sky  
red rock mountains  
jut into blue

tunnel  
through the mountain's heart  
headlights

mountain echo  
ages waiting  
for its return

desert mountains  
all four seasons  
melt into one

desert mountain  
all four directions  
meet in one

stone mountain  
a gravel road winds down  
the slim edge

## **mountain pass**

mountain pass  
the setting sun  
meets the moon

writing  
on mountain peaks  
tablets of stone

summit warmth  
wrapped around  
by mountains

between mountains  
desert night wind  
on a full breast

mountain peaks  
watching a million years  
pass by

dizzy  
wobbly line of mountains  
at the summit

mountain top  
silence slammed  
by a car door

### **mountain stream**

mountain stream  
bell tones of rocks  
barely wet

### **oasis**

summer  
at the oasis  
evening cool

### **ocean**

dawn seas  
the ebbing light  
leaves shell pink

ocean waves  
tide sends winds  
home to the ridge

sea foam  
blowing from a wild surf  
gulls

given depth  
by a passing cloud  
ocean colors

ocean wild  
no need to see  
a whale

summer day  
the ocean invents  
aquamarine

holding hands  
a blazing log  
-and ocean roar

squirting water  
between old rocks the ocean  
plays with itself

**pebble**

mighty river  
a white line through  
this pebble

**pond**

torchlight  
inviting rocks by the pond  
to dance on water  
green round pond  
lily pads of late summer  
mossy pennies  
summer departs  
the stagnant pond  
stays right here

**reef**

alone in the storm  
anchored to a rocky reef  
clang of a buoy bell

**river**

narrow river  
opening just a crack  
the wide ocean  
white with foam  
the ocean enters  
the river's mouth  
reservoir  
an ancient river  
refilled  
river days  
a stream of light  
flows by  
river mouth  
bridged  
by gulls  
redwood roots  
the river's course  
bends and twists



deep below  
running in the sea  
other rivers  
rushing river  
brushes the air  
with white ripples  
walking the mountains  
the river goes along  
with us  
mid-morning  
the river refreshes itself  
with a little breeze  
the earth turns  
now and then  
the river bends  
hot sun presses  
water into a river  
summer flood  
from the river  
winding up the river  
a stream of cool air  
sleeping  
valley river sounds  
dream  
sleeping  
below the noisy river  
the other one  
stopping by the river  
sunlight  
a bank of fog  
rocky stream  
a dropped feather  
dyes it blue

## **riverbed**

dry riverbed  
covered in the mornings  
with puffy clouds  
resting  
the river  
in its bed

streambed  
bent to fit the earth  
a fallen willow

**rocks**

face to face  
with ancient rocks  
the tourist touches hers

sea spray  
a rock drawn in the air  
its water shape

mountain boulders  
breaking up  
the light

desert rocks  
listening to the music  
of water

monoliths  
holding the rosy sun  
against blue night

broken rock  
half hot  
half cold

rocks  
legends  
in sand

rocks  
leaving clearly  
sand

rocks  
in veins of ore  
roots

magnetic  
lines in the rock  
writing it down

evening reflected  
by glowing granite  
lighted from within

rocks  
at the foot of the bed  
waves splash

water falls  
on Japanese landscapes  
sea rocks  
a crack  
in the monolith  
one star  
the top of the rock  
in the bottom of the pool  
bright with sun  
cracking a smile  
faces in sandstone  
slanted sun  
splashing each other  
centuries in the surf  
brother rocks  
after the rain  
all the desert colors  
in wet rocks  
red rock walls  
echo  
blue rock walls  
forces of nature  
a sense of theater  
with rocks  
mountain peak  
stars burned into rocks  
glitter all day  
high tide  
lapping the fire  
in a rock

## **salt flats**

road to the moon  
between ash meadows  
salt ponds  
reflected  
on the moon  
salt flats  
Death Valley  
salts a bright blue lake  
at twilight

earth fissures  
lacing the pond  
dried salt  
the line  
between water and hills  
a salt sea  
desert beach  
green moss white  
with salts  
lining the hills  
edges of the sea  
with salt

## **sand**

rolling over  
into dry sand  
the 7th wave  
snow-capped peaks  
then the wave spreads  
over a sandy beach

## **sea**

dark and growling  
from land a summer storm  
becomes a glass sea  
lying low  
before storm clouds  
a smooth sea  
distant horizon  
sea miles marked  
by different colors  
water drawing  
a straight line between  
sea and sky  
splashes  
return to the sea  
a dance

## **sea stacks**

sea stacks  
the white smoke  
of spindrift

## **sky country**

two crows land  
with sun on their backs  
sky country

## **spindrift**

undercurrents  
below spindrift  
a mellow flute  
  
spindrift  
above the ocean wave  
a prayer flag  
  
spindrift  
a cloud hangs  
where a wave broke

## **stones**

night fall  
yet not one stone  
moves  
  
painting stones  
a mountain brook moving  
tree shadows  
  
alluvial fans  
the valley heat  
on stone fields  
  
shimmering  
above the hot stones  
summer sea  
  
one stone  
climbing the mountain  
in my shoe  
  
covered with stones  
the stream makes a path  
to the river

## **streets/roads/paths**

fire in the mist  
rushing down the highway  
far mountains  
  
mountain path  
the roundness of the earth  
arches between my feet

poem maps  
under summer feet  
paths

midnight car  
lining the coast  
with highway one

headlights  
on a rain-drenched pass  
slanted sunlight

yellow line  
on a black highway  
last sun rays

desert highway  
the poet writes a haiku  
on the yellow line

mountains  
twisting roads  
in us

following the river  
following the sun  
through mountains

rivers  
building roads  
in mountains

desert paths  
the smell of water  
paving the way

without moving  
our road goes from town to town  
changing its name

a summer shower  
the asphalt road  
rising in steam

beach road  
summer smooth  
from sandy feet

a mountain  
bends in the road  
heaped high

mountain road  
going and going and yet  
time stands still

freeway  
a truckload of art  
passing tanks

dust  
the road disappears  
in itself

road  
winding around the mountain  
mountain views

down from the pass  
still the black road  
wiggles

## **stream**

in the stream  
waiting for wind ripples  
to move the mountain

this beach stream  
hangs our sandals on two fingers  
runs to the sea

## **surf**

an open window  
surf sounds  
square

night surf  
the bright waves  
of flame

surf's boom  
sun beats into water  
sound on metal

earth spins  
surf sounds  
in dry sand

boiling seas  
into a wild surf  
a hot sun

## swamp

black cypress  
draining into the swamp  
strands of color

## tides

home again  
a pulse of tides  
in our blood

tilted  
this side of the ocean  
dries in the sun

dry rocks  
bubbling up between  
the incoming tide

incoming tide  
the sun-dried rock  
wetted

rattle of rocks  
at high tide the stars  
an earthly tone

night tide  
black rocks blacker  
as a dark moon

freshly washed hair  
receding tide leaves  
wet rocks

high and low  
tides weaving  
sand

the tide turns  
a whoosh of wave  
splashes white

pictures  
in the burning wood  
tide lines

rippling light  
night tide flows back  
to a sunlit sea



high tide  
sharing a small beach  
with wet feet

**tide pool**

melting  
in a tide pool  
sun on still waters

**tremors**

deep in the earth  
tremors in our knees  
magnified  
after tremors  
in the fear and trembling  
frog voices

**valley**

rocks  
crumble into valleys  
evening colors  
deepening  
the lowest point in USA  
night shadow  
jagged mountains  
the wide slope of valley  
smoothes the air  
mountain shadows  
tracing valley contours  
across the sky  
layers of color  
the cliff eases into valleys  
blue dusk  
San Joaquin valley:  
sand walking valley  
after all my years  
Queen Valley\*  
mother earth  
full of gold

*\* a mining area in Death Valley*

empty night sky  
fills the desert valley  
with city lights

the breaking wave  
cough drop colored  
cool mint  
between rainclouds  
sunlight slants  
deep into valleys  
mountain greatness  
the gentle easing  
into valleys  
rainclouds  
blowing into the valley  
sunset's golden light

**village**

bell tones  
of the country side  
village names

**volcano**

evenings  
setting the sky on fire  
lava mountains  
red into black  
summit passes  
into sunset  
mid-day  
heat of volcanoes  
still in the rocks  
lava rocks flowing  
with the river  
night-long shadows  
lava rocks  
flowing with the river  
dry summer heat  
black lava  
pushing into bloodred  
sunset peaks

**waves**

sunshine  
the tops of waves melting  
into hard metal

sun in front  
of each crested wave  
its own radiance

night air  
breathing deeply the waves  
wet dry sand

walls of water  
waves in rock  
a tearing sound

waves crash  
in the curve of the bay  
unbroken by man

wave upon wave  
sun beats the water  
into a hard curve

earth turning  
a wave rounds  
the blue green

elephant rock  
stomping on the beach  
ocean waves

asleep  
yet waves remember  
to come ashore

a wave breaks  
out in laughter  
two people

waves  
unrolling  
seafoam

mounting up  
a wave rides a rock  
ashore

rolling in waves  
the white foam clouds  
thunder

solid waves  
flowing into the surf  
dunes

arching into the sky  
the wave takes on  
more blue  
teary eyes  
seeing with binoculars  
salt waves  
white laced waves  
tearing silk  
across the sand  
each wave curves upward  
catches a gleam of sunlight  
then moves on  
seas of silk  
shapes without scissors  
waves torn asunder  
waves  
feeling  
time

## **waterfall**

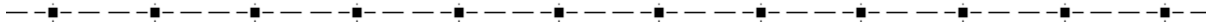
a woman  
a step down  
a waterfall  
taking to the waterfall  
the everyday worries  
washed away  
mountain waterfall  
fog flows backwards  
into clouds  
breath of angels  
air of waterfalls  
up one's nose  
foot of the falls  
tourists stopped  
in their tracks  
foot of the falls  
the roaring opens  
tourists' mouths  
writing its name  
on a granite cliff  
water falls

quiet river  
all of the wind  
out of its falls

water drops  
a radiance  
in the falls

## **woods**

beyond the campfire  
darkness draws together  
the woods at night



## **SUMMER Livelihood**

### **airport**

airport  
up in the smoke  
faces I've met there

waiting area  
mom and dad's faces  
grounded

airport carpeting  
the dizziness  
above and below

before boarding  
a finger on the wingtip  
cold and sweaty

among strangers  
sun rises without a night  
flares on metal wings

### **bare feet**

barefoot  
her sweat socks  
still do

smooth sand  
chasing children down the beach  
their foot prints

## beachcomber

watered silk  
bright surf catches  
her pants leg

a huge wave  
rolling up her pants  
still wet

missing the malls  
on the ocean beach  
she gathers shells

the fat child  
gathers the most sea shells  
pockets bulging

high tide  
the beach leaves a mark  
in her book

afternoon wind  
all the beachcomber's words  
blown out to sea

heat wave  
on the beach crowds  
cool fog

cold beach walk  
on sun-warmed car seats  
two sweatshirts

curls of waves  
yet on the beach all day  
her hair goes straight

smuggler's cove  
stones wash on the beach  
the size of skulls

a special beach  
I put a pebble in my mouth  
before leaving

car doors slam  
essence of starfish comes  
home with us

beachcomber  
gift of civilization  
a hairbrush

beach bums  
at a sermon of gulls  
one tries to sleep  
smelling the light  
on her tanned shoulder  
home from the beach

## **biking**

cyclist  
picking up a nail  
from a crosswalk  
flat country lane  
a man on a bike  
slices the sky

## **boating**

tourists  
too tipsy to drive  
out in a canoe  
choppy waves  
the small boat between  
two worlds  
behind the speedboat  
water bent and broken  
mends with ripples  
streaked with gold  
sunset in the rich folks' harbor  
the tallest mast  
in a canoe  
a man eating a banana  
peeled  
a summer day  
drifting by  
in a canoe  
river's bend  
wave lengths of setting sun  
broken by a canoe  
rowing on the lake  
boats filled  
with empty sounds

stopped down  
by the river's pace  
drifting boats  
studying waves  
he drifts off  
to sleep

## **cabin**

cabin closed  
the waiting in the woods  
as we come

the tiny cabin  
listening to pine wind  
its very own planks

early summer  
cabin walls leaking  
late night cold

back again  
in the summer cabin  
winter dreams

tin roof  
hearing the edge of a cloud  
wet with rain

warm dry air  
the river low in August  
a door opening

leaving for home  
summer cabin floors  
swept bare

## **building a hut**

camping  
man's first home  
a wall of green wind

pillared by pine  
driftwood logs  
slanted sunlight

a driftwood shack  
remembering other times  
places



fights forgotten  
neighbor kids building  
a club house

the open window  
screened with a web  
leaf shadows

## **camping**

remaking the bed  
the river flows by  
the campground

nearly awake  
sea-gathered light  
on sleeping faces

environmentally sound  
wiping the new-age camper  
with recycled paper

## **circus**

summertime  
the way to the circus  
childish voices

carousel  
the sun goes around  
up and down

## **city life**

Berkeley sidewalks  
the rest of my education  
on the street

selling peace buttons  
he buys the mulatto a coffee  
room for the night

street woman  
her tits at home  
in T-shirts

city park  
hands of the blind  
sparrows

## cutting grains

home from haying  
the weight of a wooden rake  
on sun burnt shoulders

a giving sound  
wheat leans into  
the mowing machine

it is still hot  
tractors coming home  
with headlights

## fan

sound of a fan  
blowing a cool hole  
back into summer

paper and sticks  
the coolness of a ocean  
painted on a fan

## forest fires

dry wind  
the smell of smoke  
bright red

hot moon  
marked and spotted gray  
by forest fires

plowing a firebreak  
the dry earth  
a cloud of smoke

clearing a trail  
it only seems clean  
after a shower

## fruitstand

fruitstand  
the girl-watcher pinches  
a peach

## garden

your long letter  
a garden around me  
tall white summer skies

gardens  
voices among flowers  
patterned paths

## **gardening**

evening song  
the scythe set a stone  
leans on the fence

snapping beans  
she doesn't look up  
when the gate slams

garden spider  
at home in a hat  
dangles at my ear

a new hoe  
chopping the grasses  
of last spring

cabbage gardener  
seeing white butterflies  
in a new light

## **going home**

long walk home  
the incoming tide  
refills footprints

hot stones  
footprints of swimmers  
going home

homeward bound  
our days of vacation  
in brown skin

driving in time  
rivers flow backwards  
as we leave the sea

going home  
down the mountain road  
sunset

leaving  
the ocean waves  
come back

tracks on the beach  
all the feet have returned  
to the city

welcome home  
the far ridge filled  
with thunder

coming home  
to the rest of rain  
all day long

the way home  
a scent of open fires  
clinging to my wrist

*ginko* \* success  
finding back home  
sand between my toes

\**ginko* - Japanese for a walk taken  
with the purpose of writing haiku

the weight of eyelids  
home from the beach  
full of sand

home again  
a bath and the towel  
with a blue border

## hiking

hikers rest  
at the waterfall  
coming down to earth

heavy sweating  
the taste of mountain  
on a hot day

squeaky knee joints  
canyon river sounds  
coming up the hill

canyon springs  
where water rest in light  
travelers pause

going down the mountain  
its rocky river words  
still in our ears

tired bones  
back-packed in  
a mountain hike  
*"the back of my hand"*  
he said  
and we were lost  
looking down  
the tops of trees  
rooted in the canyon  
hitch hiker  
leaving the no-camping area  
his pack all lumpy  
one path  
heel to toe  
and warm  
mountain climbers  
their voices higher  
than the rocks  
climbers  
effortless the ascent  
of their voices  
soft pink hills  
the hiker invited to rest  
way over there  
in the valley  
stretched to the setting sun  
soles of hiker's feet  
hikers resting  
yet the mountain moves  
its morning shadow  
humming  
*"Pomp and Circumstances"*  
mountain hikers  
mountain hikers  
morning as wide  
as spirit shapes  
Sierra hike  
taking John Muir's word  
home again

## **hitch-hiker**

hitch-hiker  
on the picnic basket  
several small bugs

hitch hikers  
a car full of flies  
going to LA

## **kids**

sun on her knee  
stuck on raspberry jam  
dripping through toast

August beaches  
for moms and crabs  
the nitty-gritty

teenagers  
tumbling on the sands  
over-playful waves

afternoon quiet  
the grandson's crayon  
melts on the porch

evening clouds  
stretched low on the horizon  
a child's name being called

## **lace**

on her breast  
brightness next to shadow  
of lace

ocean foam  
all night the loveliness  
of a lace gown

## **laundry**

laundry day  
the gardenia blooms  
clear white

billowing white  
filled with a summer day  
clouds on a clothesline

laundry dries  
a change of sea wind  
dampens it again

bottom of the basket  
the sandy beaches  
of dirty clothes  
home again  
the mountain that remains  
laundry

### **lighthouse**

land's end  
the low star turns  
into a lighthouse  
the lighthouse  
mirrors over the sea  
a yellow pyramid

### **lollipop**

two lollipops  
wrapped in cellophane  
matching sisters

### **mid-day nap**

a noon nap  
rock shadows  
restless  
picking up sleep  
where you left it at dawn  
afternoon nap  
roadside rest stop  
getting out of the car  
all the tiredness  
not really tired  
a summer day  
lays down to rest  
beach sand  
measuring a poet  
stretched out  
waking  
shadows from a nap  
have moved

### **mountain climbing**

slick rock faces  
climbers' strain  
against the rope

dots of shadow  
climbing the mountain  
flute notes on both sides  
to the summit  
to view the lowest point  
in the valley

## **movies**

ridge dark  
in town  
a good movie  
outdoor movies  
around the old films  
moths  
after the show  
the smell of rain  
on hot asphalt

## **nakedness**

summer afternoon  
the coolness of white  
naked on a quilt  
moss-green bank  
the woman reclining nude  
as is the river  
nude beach  
nothing new  
under the sun  
naked  
on the porch  
passion flowers  
newborn  
swimming in the river nude  
on your birthday  
on the nude beach  
from her tits to her toes  
it's Saturday night

## **outdoor concert**

outdoor flute concert  
the second movement  
the wind



singing low  
sea-white fog disappears  
in an outdoor concert

following strings  
stars hum along  
with the guitar

harpsichord  
tightened spinal cords  
jangle

hot summer night  
all that jazz  
shared by neighbors

going insane  
radio rock  
a block away

stop light  
music from other cars  
perfume

## **pastimes**

in her hands  
coming out of the hills  
clay pots

beach clay  
in her hands palm prints  
a vase for flowers

how quiet  
the cove where divers left  
their trash

dune buggies  
in the desert night  
electric fireflies

dune buggies  
nights in valley lights  
parked

inspiring view  
eating cereal  
with a pencil

row upon row  
torn from a notebook  
mountain lines

sea painting  
a child's water color box  
full of sand

watercolor paper  
stopping a wave  
with a brush

sunlight  
trying to paint highlights  
on tops of waves

waves  
following the brush  
into a watercolor

watercolor class  
the beach giving lessons  
in making waves

a Sunday painter  
the lighthouse just as big  
as a gnarled thumb

dried up  
in a box of paints  
summer sea colors

a hummed tune  
painting a wave  
realistic

in exchange  
for a special rock  
flute notes

a gentle breeze  
river willows not moving  
lost fishing lines

looking up  
from the crime story  
passion flowers

as everyone knew  
poets who write by the sea  
are all wet

empty  
desert notebook  
fills with sand

the book closed  
yet hearing the poems  
thunderstorm

green faded ribbon  
the English lute  
hangs songs on a nail

sounds of a harp  
drifting into the forest  
into birdsong

- *for Elizabeth Searle Lamb*

in rows  
bees and his lips  
at harmonica holes

- *for Jack Stamm*

tuning the dulcimer  
legs of a spider  
crawling out

country market  
the humane society sponsors  
a flea market

alone  
the world stops  
just to find it

## **picnic**

raspberry jam  
on a peanut butter sandwich  
high noon lips

weathered picnic tables  
after the summer shower  
mustard stains wet

## **photograph**

ocean view  
tourists taking photos  
leaving trash

tourists  
taken by the view  
snapshots

curved  
on the ground lens  
a wind-swept pine  
sunset  
when the show's the best  
the lights go out  
canyon rim photo  
after the click he sees  
his toes in space  
loaded with cameras  
donkeys with a master's degree  
in photography  
worn smooth  
the wind-swept cedar  
everyone photographs  
in the desert  
a sudden whirring  
camera's automatic rewind  
crumpled  
silver sunshine  
on a photo

**pool**

summer afternoon  
filling the pool  
with neighbor's kids

**pregnancy**

at the gynecologist  
knitting a baby blanket  
for the seventh grandchild

*for Caitlin Steiner*

**relaxing**

restless waves  
tourists  
newly arrived  
restless sea  
houses of folks  
taking it easy  
night rocks  
in beach fog  
drunken voices

newcomers  
digging their toes in sand  
cliffs of California

## **reliving history**

playing my flute  
Indians  
ten thousand years ago

aborigines  
my mind still fits  
the grinding place

desert  
bare bones  
living

## **roughing it**

watering the desert  
a small yellow stream  
between her feet

uphill  
a load of firewood heats  
wheelbarrow handles

mountain lights  
the glow of candles  
in jelly glasses

rusty pump  
cussing and swearing  
it goes again

campfire  
cooking clouds  
in oyster stew

outdoor plumbing  
showering with stars  
sandy soap

outdoor shower  
in a path of moonlight  
surf sounds

outdoor tub  
bathing in the scent of pine  
still on the trees

city girl  
how to brush her teeth  
with a wet finger

in the tub  
heat of the day  
goes down the drain  
squatting over earth  
just as I pee  
thunder

drought  
the scorched earth  
where he always pees  
sleeping on the floor  
an Indian rug curls up  
beside me

wakeful hours  
bending a square of moonlight  
a rag rug

dried prune faces  
guests when they hear  
we have only a privy

stern child  
on the wall behind the hippie  
her baby picture

## **sandals**

all day outlines  
dust on her sandals  
where toes were

## **sleeping outdoors**

hot weather  
wearing the day  
all night

summer moon  
patterns on the porch  
a crazy quilt

summer evening  
the porch swing moves  
a new moon

high tide  
waves breaking loud  
around my pillow

night bushes  
the candle's flame  
red in animal eyes

lost  
in the night stars changing  
the summer sky

a canopy bed  
covered with summer stars  
airy blankets

mountain winds  
sleeping all night  
with open mouths

asleep  
light from the sea  
in her face

dawn  
stars turning into  
mosquitoes

waking up  
the itch of bug bites  
brand new

## **sight-seeing**

Grand Canyon  
a hole in the ground  
filled with mountains

Point Arena lighthouse  
snags the morning sun  
and \$3.00 each

unfenced precipice  
he remembers as unpaid  
life insurance

Japanese journey  
Sacramento rice fields  
and Mount Lassen

stars  
carried into caves  
tourists' candles

Indian cave:  
songs still  
wind

cave dwellers  
the grinding stone  
hollow

bringing home  
memories  
of Indian caves

caution:  
in the petrified forest  
no smoking signs

harbor town bells  
on Saturday night  
buoys

rock woman  
facing into desert sun  
her sky-blue eye

Holland  
flattened against the sky  
warmed at the edges

Salton sea  
its blue also covers  
the far hills

on every road  
canals with drawbridges  
for pictures

country villages  
the sloped roofs huddle  
against green growing  
before their doorways  
in the hour before darkness  
people as statues

in the museum  
yellow flowers floating  
a glass paperweight

seeing my face  
in the crowd I bought  
the mirror



## **straw hat**

naked breasts  
wearing only the dark lace  
shadows of her straw hat

her straw hat  
asleep by the garden  
of noon-day sun

## **sun bathing**

eyes closed  
only my breast to view  
the sea

off-shore breeze  
coming to land  
on bikini bodies

cooling the sand  
the fat lady's shadow  
on a hot day

evening deepens  
the tan on her legs  
with varicose veins

grains of sand  
days of a life  
lying on a beach

silence  
to seek and wrap around  
the body nothing

tanned  
except for the places  
a fly sits

bodies  
given to the desert  
sun

hot bathed body  
dried by desert  
stars

sun-bathing  
conservationists  
saving water

## **sunburn**

evenings  
drawing closer to the fire  
sun-burnt faces

## **surfers**

green waves  
florescent with surfers  
in mod wetsuits

sleeping in the sun  
only surfer dreams  
ride the bright waves

surfers  
black suited  
among seals

## **sweat**

rationed water  
in the desert  
our wet places

bright blue armpits  
the indigo blouse fades  
into a hot day

beach day  
evening turning  
flesh to fire

## **summer illness**

lumbago's dull pain  
a summer breeze frisks  
by the bed

feverish  
on a hot day defrosting  
the refrigerator

summer colds  
the neighbor's dog barks  
when we cough

on one hand  
the liver spots of aging  
poison ivy

## **summer lovemaking**

churning seas  
love-making  
in the hot tub  
making love  
into hot tub foam  
falling stars  
an undriven nail  
caught in the lighthouse  
at land's end  
between our legs  
dancing flames  
in a fire place  
log to ashes  
clocks  
our love-making  
after the tryst  
the red candle gutted  
yet comes sunrise

## **swimming**

ocean waves pound  
the tattoo on his arm  
blue skin  
the rocky river  
our knees a buzz  
with the current  
swimmers  
afternoon heat  
underwater  
salt crystal ripples  
washing shells on my feet  
toenails  
sitting in the river  
rhythmic waves between my legs  
does it for me  
taking heat  
down from the ridge  
into the river

hills and valleys  
a woman lying flat  
in the river

an old woman  
swimming the August stream  
the mossy smell

catching the big one  
a fat old lady hauls out  
on the nude beach

swimming alone  
the drag of undertow  
mom calls

### **tea garden**

tea house  
fresh air fills the cup  
with green tree

### **tourist**

date groves  
palms waving  
at single tourists

bound by a bell  
strangers in the street  
of ancient churches

good for the tongue  
names of Norwegian  
home-cooked food

sidewalks of Paris  
the smell of coffee  
on a foreign tongue

nasal tones  
long bread under dark blue  
elbows

tourists at sunset  
in canyon walls  
a sea of red eyes

closed in sleep  
all the eyes  
seeing the canyon

**traveling**

tourists  
still keeping alive  
ghost towns  
dry river bed  
round rocks moving  
into tourist's cars

airport parking lot  
bubble gum sticking to me  
my home town

going home  
car doors close  
out the river

going down the road  
rocky river rhythms  
in our legs

lost  
eyes on the map  
miss the turn

mid-morning hunger  
driving right past  
the chocolate hills

a sign  
at the fork in the road  
*fine dining*

freeways  
car motors  
cursing

granite boulders  
rolling along the roads  
tiny tin cars

driving home  
the wrecked car  
still there

a trip  
with maiden aunts  
coming apart

after traveling  
the hot tub filled  
with strangers

sea side darkness  
leaving the city bright  
not-knowing

dancing in bed  
next to the nightclub  
motel sleeplessness

Grand Canyon  
so very huge  
no room in the inn

## **vacation**

desert vacation  
the first day back  
into a mountain stream

stars  
in the hot tub  
two on vacation

## **vacation home**

for rent  
on the door  
magic runes

rented windows  
190' of ocean view  
on Mastercharge

window to window  
oceanside vacationers  
eyeball to eyeball

roadside bench  
everyone drives  
right on by

sea escape  
the cliff house hangs  
out in space

between  
two views of the sea  
a color TV

six o'clock news  
we turn to watch the world  
of a picture window

my bare legs  
on the stranger  
legs of chairs  
shutting the door  
not shutting out  
surf sounds  
a cup of coffee  
the cruise ship steams  
into another window  
by the window  
a fireplace joins  
the lighthouse  
vacation  
the first day  
without rain  
seaside summer  
hearing the foghorn  
then nothing else  
vacation house  
sitting on the porch  
gift-rapted

## **visiting shrines**

Indian cave  
shadows deep in cracks  
from other suns  
pepper trees  
hot as hell  
at the mission  
circling the mission  
a flutter of wings  
just pigeons?  
jet age  
still in the ancient mission  
an offering of fire  
church yard  
colors of fallen stones  
raised by flowers  
mission church  
a roof of song in rows  
of starlings

at the shrine  
pine needles crisscross  
the holy spot

holy place  
sitting on sacred rocks  
itches

## visitors

guests  
the only ones on time  
are the stars

sun through fog  
visiting children blow  
soap bubbles

kids discover  
spooky white in beach sand  
grandma's ankles

child finally sleeps  
stars come out singing  
a lullaby

sign  
palm reader  
open

Gypsy lips  
curve into a smile  
future revealed

all during supper  
the city boy sits  
on the tractor

how he inspects his fields  
the man with visitors  
from his wife's family

visiting  
how good to see her oven  
dirtier than mine

sun cookies  
the kids ate them all up  
before the eclipse

company  
serving zucchini bread  
repeatedly



his relatives  
serving zucchini bread  
disguised as special

visiting relatives  
the narrow bed holds  
us together

an old album  
in the granddaughter's lap  
rose petals

summer guests  
taking it with them  
back to town

deserted road  
first the tourists leave  
and now the geese

three lizards  
together on the mountaintop  
- and we talked

### **wicker chairs**

creaking with the weight  
the noon-day sun heavy  
in wicker chairs

new cushions  
on the lawn chairs  
thick moonlight

### **wind chimes**

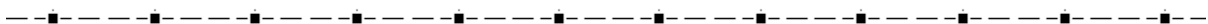
wind  
moonlight in wind chimes  
still

### **zoo**

in the zoo  
tiger lilies  
growing wild

a wild lion  
caged in his eyes  
small children

children's eyes  
in the snow leopard's cage  
touching his spots



## **SUMMER Animals**

### **ants**

raisins  
in the oatmeal  
ants  
heat  
creeping over sand dunes  
fire ants  
cool desert shade  
moving across hot sands  
fire-biting ants  
a stream of tourists  
meeting in the desert  
ants  
a line of ants lead  
to the body  
beginning to crumble  
bone white  
ants carrying away  
the darkness

### **bats**

stars  
carried into caves  
bat eyes  
adding ribs  
to the colors of midnight  
a bat

### **birds**

unfolding wings  
an up-canyon wind  
a bright bird  
surf rolls  
power in the sand  
low-flying birds  
going home  
birds across the lake  
in nests

bird tracks  
for each line of dust  
a short life poem  
a house in the woods  
my cage for me  
to live among birds  
birds fly on  
stepping stones of a still pond  
cloud to cloud  
landing  
a wing spread with light  
folds into feathers  
what is a branch  
and what is a bird leg?  
the answer flies away

## **bird song**

desert sound  
in the bird's open beak  
only the wind  
mountain meadow  
bird call arcs to call  
in answers  
dawn  
desert silence an oasis  
of bird song  
desert morning  
bubbles in the hot spring  
bird song  
breakfast  
campfire coffee cups  
of bird song  
one bird calls  
the not-yet sun  
in barren rocks  
desert birds  
music in their beaks  
running water  
going to sleep  
songs of birds  
growing dark

night  
call of a bird  
without color

## **blue birds**

summer sky  
in and out of the nest  
bluebirds  
growing up male  
color flows into his wings  
baby bluebird  
between pines  
the summer sky sings  
bluebird songs  
branches bend  
a streak of feather  
sky blue  
sprinkled breast babies  
with cinnamon shoulders  
rare bluebirds

## **blue jays**

picnic  
a babbling brook  
of blue jays  
naptime  
blue jays, too  
blissfully quiet  
up with the birds  
country living with families  
of blue jays  
winding up  
the blue jay alarm clock  
early sunrise

## **bugs**

May morning  
electric with the hum  
hatching bugs  
yellow bugs on the lettuce  
squished  
are yellow inside also

these bugs!  
yesterday I squashed  
those bugs

**butterfly**

clapping  
praise without hands  
a butterfly

fluttering  
the butterfly has no time  
for a name

eyelash  
curves a glance  
teases a butterfly

a flower lifted  
from the stem floats  
a butterfly

even while resting  
butterflies go on dreaming  
of flight

waiting at the corner  
only a butterfly  
and this lovely girl

walking  
with a butterfly  
here I too pause

end of summer  
following it out of sight  
a butterfly

before the hot sun  
white on the butterfly's wing  
melted transparent

a face among the flowers  
then the butterfly  
folds its wings

butterfly colors  
the air woven  
with healing

a broken crayon  
the path of a butterfly  
drawn by a child

high fashion  
butterflies decorate  
my garden hat

**caterpillar**

ignoring the sign:  
*no overnight camping*  
tent caterpillars

**cat - in summer**

a yellow cat  
melting in the August sun  
summer days  
the cat's milk  
swimming with ants  
hot in August  
summer's heat  
caged in the stripes  
of a ginger kitty  
to and fro  
in a hammock  
a cat purrs

**cicada**

buzz of cicadas  
pushing quicksilver  
up the thermometer  
a shrill cry  
overheated the cicada peels  
out of its skin  
soft morning air  
the quiet afterbirth  
of the cicada

**chipmunks**

a show  
for the price of peanuts  
three chipmunks

**chuckwalla**

dirt road sign:  
*four-wheeled drive only*  
chuckwalla tracks

**cormorant**

buoy bells  
from rock shadows  
cormorants

**cows**

sea meadows  
as rocks and cows  
rocks and cows  
sunset  
the great bull closes  
both eyes  
cooling cows  
the tree extends its shadow  
over a yellow one  
by the bullpen  
a fence has torn off  
a red shirt

**cuckoo**

hearing the cuckoo  
calling out for a lover  
morning seems so young

**dogs - summer**

dog days  
hoping the stray pup  
comes back  
backyard circus  
for the price of a penny  
the neighbor's dog barks

**doves**

morning fog  
the calling of doves  
many small circles  
cooing doves  
lengthening the coolness  
of shade trees  
a hollowness  
waiting for the dove  
to call again

doves  
lingering by the dark door  
feather light

swing still  
the rope squeak  
of a dove

**eagle**

mountain climbers  
resting in an eerie  
eaglets

mountain peak  
an eagle leaves it  
moonlight

**finches**

sea cliff home  
nestled by cypress  
house finches

**fingerlings**

our kisses  
on our legs  
fish kisses

salmon fingerlings  
swimming by the nude beach  
eyes bulging

jumping in  
a river of fingerlings  
our bodies too pale

**firefly**

lightning  
fireflies above puddles  
peek at themselves

**fleas**

on my ankles  
the cat ignores the bites  
of her fleas

**fledglings**

a little clumsy  
the scrub jay teaches  
fledglings to fly



## flies

company's comin'  
even the flies buzz  
at the door

drone of flies  
curved as desert sand  
around noon

before one's very eyes  
heatwaves shimmering  
flies

if only flies would nap  
among the cats and books  
on wicker chairs

surf rolls  
life in the sand  
beach flies

fly wings  
fanning summer  
hotter

helping him out  
the fly is crushed  
against the door

## geese

tucked in bed  
warm summer days  
of goose down

## gnats

sand dunes  
drying the wings  
of each gnat  
shadowed river  
transparent wings of gnats  
the only light

## goldfish

desert pond  
in the national park  
goldfish  
passing summer  
as shadow nears the pond  
*koi* quickly hide

summer passing  
the ripple on the koi pond  
an orange fin

## **grasshopper**

here grasshopper  
at pepper plant restaurant  
aphids!

## **gulls**

breaking waves  
the screams of gulls  
soft sand

skimming waves  
spindrift feathers  
a gull

along the cliff  
wing tips of gulls  
at eye level

high tide mark  
gulls search  
another time

before us  
the road flown  
by two sea gulls

gull wings  
lifting the light  
from the sea

gulls  
playing with the wind  
their shadows

blue white  
swirls in evening skies  
gulls

cutting up  
a cove's high seas  
the soaring gull

sea birds home  
on shores of booming surf  
the unused songs

Sunday beach  
a sermon of sea gulls  
one goes wading  
mountain overlook  
twinkling above the sea  
a flock of gulls  
sea gulls  
over land and water  
smoke from fire  
tearing together  
fish entrails  
gulls' laugh  
on rocks  
the first sunshine  
a gull

**hawk**

lunchtime  
overlooking the road ahead  
a hawk

**hornets**

fog billows  
the gray streaks  
of a hornet's nest

**herons**

end of summer  
walking the riverbank  
just a heron

**hummingbirds**

a flutter of flowers  
hovering in the heat  
hummingbirds

**lady bugs**

roof newly shingled  
nestled under pine cones  
lady bugs

**larks**

surprising  
tourists on the beach  
meadow larks

above wild flowers  
the song of the lark widens  
the meadow higher

flowers songs  
while looking out to sea  
meadow larks

## **lizard**

stones  
a patterned shadow moves  
on lizard legs

a hot wind  
secrets of dunes  
from a lizard

a patch blue sky  
the belly of a lizard  
filled with flies

flying water  
into desert lizards  
gnats

wind echo  
in round rocks  
lizard eyes

eyes  
painted on cave walls  
lizards

ancient eyes  
on cave walls  
lizards

lizard eyes  
a summer cooled  
by the glint

a dry scrape  
as the door slams  
lizards run

summer  
a brown twig becomes  
a lizard

salt cedars  
gray moving to touch  
lizard skin

heat exchange  
in a sudden breeze  
two lizards  
giant boulders  
the lizards arrive late  
for the flute concert

**mayflies**

mayflies  
a pair of birds  
playing catch

**moles**

heart pounding  
the tiny animals that scurry  
within the earth

**mosquito**

added to stars  
swarm of mosquitoes  
obscure the view  
the sting  
of a summer alarm clock  
mosquitoes  
late letter  
worded with mosquito bodies  
my blood  
summer melting  
mosquitoes' sound  
in a harmonica  
drowned mosquito  
it's dangerous to swim  
in my navel  
swatting mosquitoes  
how lightly goes a life  
at sunset  
dead mosquito  
no longer interested  
in biting me

**moth**

braiding in her hair  
last night's dream  
a tiny moth

Gypsy circus  
in the tent  
moths  
against my cheek  
a touch of powder  
moth wing  
fog thickening  
into the lampbeam  
a moth  
a garden lantern  
attracting a few moths  
and all the stars  
silver gray words  
a quiver of moth wings  
in hard green eyes  
nights  
a moth at the window  
star-crazy

**nestlings**

up under the roof  
between our legs small birds  
fly into nests

**osprey**

osprey  
silver between his talons  
spindrift fish

**peacock**

spreading his tail  
corn flung in the flight-fan  
draws the peacock

**pelican**

wave to wave  
pelicans follow flashes  
of lightning  
pelicans  
clowning tops  
of waves

**rabbits**

among cholla  
cactus soft  
on the cottontail

**seals**

soft-eyed seal  
watching a lone man  
and his daughter  
wave within a wave  
riding one a seal  
his heart pumping  
curve of waves  
leaping seals thicken  
translucent waves  
barking seals  
their breath comes to the mainland  
as mist

**slug**

waiting for rain  
the slow way slugs  
make love

**snake**

winding creek  
the snake's tongue  
forked  
in a trail  
of manshade shadow  
snakeshadow  
desert road  
snaking through  
low hills  
sidewinder  
getting us off the trail  
without a step  
a jog  
in the trail  
a sidewinder  
unwinding a cobra  
a ring of round notes  
from the flute

curved rocks  
looped in the trail  
a sidewinder  
rocky river  
in its sound a rattle  
snake  
rattlesnake  
coiled into a spring  
of rust  
flute concert  
for the finale  
a rattlesnake claps  
downtown Point Arena  
from trash bin to weed patch  
a snake  
on snake lips  
two kicking frog legs  
a snakey smile

**skunk**

arched over  
the skunk's back  
stripes of moonlight

**spider**

spines  
in the desert  
tarantula legs  
paths  
crisscrossed by appetites  
of spiders  
wind yo-yo  
up and down a silken thread  
breeze-riding spider  
a wobbly line  
of black writing  
a spider walks by  
the spider crawls  
two legs to the left  
then three forward



plaid bedspread  
a small spider playing  
hopscotch

the quick broom  
strumming the dulcimer  
misses a spider

over the mirror  
in the angel's white eye  
a spider nest

eating insects  
at the bird's ankles  
spider legs

at home  
in the spider plant  
one

## **swallows**

a rented house  
for free the swallows  
build a nest

ocean breezes  
playing with feathers  
cliff swallows

dark waterfall  
swarms of cliff swallows  
follow the stream

## **swan**

at dawn  
white flies into light  
the sky with a swan

## **tiger**

pawing tigers  
how soft and hairy  
grandpa' hand

## **titmouse**

little gray wives  
a swarm of titmice  
cleaning the bushes

**ticks**

a picnic  
the ticks on me also  
are fatter

companions  
taking a walk  
the ticks on me

**water ouzel**

stream dweller  
a small gray bird sings  
water songs

**water hen**

nude beach  
eyes of water hens  
floating ahead

desert lake  
roosting place dark  
with water chickens

**warbler**

her nest in the eaves  
in our house we call her  
our warbler

**whip-poor-will**

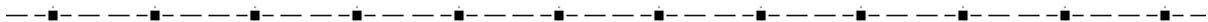
that hollow sound  
as the whip-poor-will unfolds  
itself from sleep

**worms**

cabbage leaves  
white worms mate  
for life

**wren**

as little as a wren  
alive as friend  
the wren is



## **SUMMER Plants**

### **apricots**

devouring apricots  
the fine hairs of her mustache  
moist and juicy

### **azaleas**

a huge bow  
on woody stems  
azalea pink

### **bananas**

grabby hands  
in the picnic basket  
bananas

### **bamboo**

bamboo  
waving candlelight into the night  
wind  
soap bubbles  
blooms on bamboo  
beside the shower

### **bay trees**

trespassers  
the scent of bay leaves  
down on the beach  
sea winds  
in the mountains  
bay trees

### **beets**

thinning beets  
finding now and then  
a fat one

### **bell flowers**

Chinese lantern  
the brightness within  
a bee

**blackberry**

barbed wire  
the best berry bushes  
double-thorned  
in foggy moonlight  
blackberries float in cream  
her nails are blue

**borage**

end of the path  
borage deep in bloom  
quiet thoughts

**buckwheat**

fan-leafed  
white water surges through rocks  
sprays of buckwheat

**buttercups**

buttercups  
peeping through fog  
opening to the sun

**cabbage**

a sea of cabbage  
at the end of each row  
ocean waves  
hot summer day  
cabbage leaves grow  
in their stillness

**cactus**

overcoming rocks  
a stream of cacti  
slowly spreading  
desert ways  
branching all over  
cholla cactus  
alone and asking  
to be touched  
teddy bear cholla  
writing  
desert poems  
pencil cholla

desert sunset  
cholla cactus sticks  
to the light

**calla lily**

beach fire  
pale calla lilies  
flame bright

**carrots**

old hands  
pulled carrots  
let go of earth

**cauliflower**

severed and warm  
a head of cauliflower  
continues to grow

**cedars - red**

red cedar  
in a row before evening hills  
deep purple

sunrise  
in the red cedar  
home again

curved walls  
a split cedar frames  
the gorge

**cedars - salt**

a breeze fanned  
out of desert heat  
salt cedars

salt cedars  
cooling desert winds  
bird wings

afternoons  
turning in salt cedars' sky  
gold-green

**cherries**

red hearts  
with centers of stone  
under cherry leaves

**chinquapin**

outdoor tub  
a chinquapin groves  
bathes in the heat

**cottonwood**

oasis  
a bird's nest softly lined  
in the cottonwood  
at the oasis  
wearing the coolness  
of willow and cottonwood

**cow parsnip**

ocean front  
on the most expensive lot  
cow parsnip

**creosote bushes**

creosote bushes  
afire with morning sun  
fuzzy seeds  
creosote blossoms  
sunset rain clouds  
familiar perfume  
sun's burning heat  
grows green and tall  
creosote bushes

**daisy**

rain colored  
the light circling  
a daisy  
going around  
yesterday's bath water  
today's daisies  
one flashlight  
in the daisy meadow  
stars

**dill**

dill weed  
hung to dry by the back door  
scrapes the windy wall

a sunny porch  
shaded with an umbrella  
drying dill

**duckweed flower**

river water  
shaping clouds  
duckweed

**dune grass**

among dune grass  
silver bleached logs  
and a perfect day

waves  
dune grass  
waves

dunes  
in knotted grass  
a perfect star

**elm**

an arch of elms  
so vast something of mine  
is carried upward

twilight storm  
the heaving dragon  
in the old elm

**farewell-to-spring**

summer visitors  
at the cliff's edge  
farewell-to-spring

**flowers**

out of earth  
the flower shape  
of a hole

a swinging gate  
on both sides the flowers  
open - close

windy weather  
calling the flowers by name  
each nods

flower shapes  
in dried mud  
blooming

desert flowers  
their colors too  
are hot today

flowers by the door  
nameless except for the color  
of these blue days

where do they go?  
these flowers by a path  
summer's passing

gathering flowers  
unexpected guests  
come to dinner

days  
opening/closing  
flowers

depth of a flower  
flying away with the bee  
some mystery

coming home  
flower  
by  
flower

canyon walls  
crumbled flowers  
float out to sea

## **foxglove**

magic hand  
even in the meadows  
foxgloves

foxgloves  
everything's funny  
in this heat

## **gardenia**

night unrolls  
another gardenia  
more white



## **gingko leaves**

fanning my cheek  
a gingko tree loans us  
its papery leaves

## **grains**

bearded grasses  
the same age  
as the August sun

the meadow mowed  
blue sky presses down  
ravens in the grain  
bales of straw  
without cow curves  
lying in the meadow

## **grass**

late summer grasses  
above their roots the seeds  
nearly touching  
sheaves of grass  
water that does not break  
flows in ripples  
long grass  
bending over road ruts  
curve the valley slope  
walking home  
after the circus  
how dry the grass  
sea promontory  
wild-winged grass seeds  
birds fly up  
bending a bit  
summer grasses watch me  
enter the pool  
stalk of grass  
a thin shadow joining others  
for the night

## **gladiolus**

picture taking  
such a lovely day  
gladiolus

## **green apples**

green apples  
crowding on the branch  
full of sunshine

## **green plums**

green plums  
tapering the hardness  
swift-passing days

## **green leaves**

silence  
of a green leaf  
eaten by a worm

silence  
of summer leaves  
pure laughter

silence  
in a grove of green leaves  
ancient suns watching

silence  
green leaves sly smiles  
more knowing

## **hibiscus**

sunshine lights  
on hibiscus leaves before their  
own dark

## **hollyhock**

hollyhocks  
pink light shining  
as a cup

cupping  
pink light without hands  
hollyhocks

## **Joshua trees**

Joshua trees  
on the ridge flute notes  
higher and lower  
Sunday morning  
desert sermons  
of Joshua trees

## **juniper**

juniper shade  
sleeping with tourists  
on cool lava rocks

## **leaves**

smoke shaking  
from its folds leafy trees  
along the railroad  
summer departs  
all the warmth left  
in leaf fires  
out of earth  
the heart shapes  
leaves

## **lettuce**

a gift  
for the town gossip  
a head of lettuce

## **lily**

holy of holies  
in the scroll a lily  
unrolled

## **lily**

each day  
celebrated by lilies  
opening  
sunset  
still the orange lily  
awake  
swollen belly  
the tiger lily bends its stripes  
stretch marks

lunchtime  
lilies above the book  
reading  
what to serve for lunch  
that matches the lilies  
found at the door

**lotus**

point blank  
the whiteness of lotus petals  
spinning  
left nor right  
all sides open  
the lotus

**live oaks**

live oaks  
rooted in a petrified trees  
I have a photograph  
rolling down  
a petrified log  
acorns  
fitting in  
with granite boulders  
sacred oaks

**marigolds**

marigold  
squinting in the summer sun  
wrinkled nose smell

**marijuana**

marijuana leaves  
my neighbor's garden  
in a stolen car

**melon**

muskmelon  
for desert  
the new moon

**mesquite**

fanning a breeze  
out of desert stillness  
mesquite trees

mesquite green  
moving to touch  
lizard skin  
desert dinner  
dates and honey mesquite  
without water  
lying down  
under mesquite shrubs  
shade and I  
mesquite trees  
choosing the best spots  
for shade  
desert wind  
finding voices  
in mesquite

**mint**

mint-pickers  
stained with fragrance  
fingers wave hello

**mold**

damp windowsill  
mold writes in the notebook  
little black poems

**monkey flower**

fault line  
opening  
monkey flowers

**morning glory**

morning glory  
unfolding dewdrops  
blue skies

**moss flowers**

stone Buddha  
essence still blooming  
in moss flowers  
thatched roof  
growing again  
moss

musty smell  
of old furniture  
a mossy bank  
ancient stumps  
with faces in the moss  
tourists peek inside

## **palms**

desert hills  
unfolding coolness  
in a fan palm  
for desert rain  
hot winds rattle  
dry palms

## **palm - date**

date farm  
selling coolness  
in brown bags  
the most ancient  
palm-green filtered  
dates of light

## **passion flowers**

passion flowers  
climbing on the bed  
lovers on the porch  
lovers  
twining on the porch  
passion flowers

## **peaches**

evening orchard  
where the sun sank in  
peach sky  
ripe peaches  
the heaviness tips the days  
into summer

## **peppers**

a plate of peppers  
red warming up  
August's afternoon

**phlox**

stone Buddha  
here the phlox too  
grows straight

**plums**

midnight  
the dark smell  
of ripe plums  
warm rain  
purple in a plum  
lips

**poppy (California)**

hill country  
golden parachutes land here  
poppies spread wide

**poppy (Oriental)**

sleepy garden  
red parachutes land here  
in the poppy's dream

**poison ivy**

summer day  
with poison ivy  
even hotter

**raspberry**

berry picking  
the stain of love  
colors my cheeks

**river moss**

painting the river  
low in summer  
moss green  
heaven on earth  
low in river clouds  
of moss  
up and down  
on pillows of moss  
river ripples

## **rose**

rose gardens  
just inhaling deeply  
feels like stealing

rose breeze  
leaves of a bush  
shiver white

a cut rose  
that voice spirals  
into galaxies

still spinning  
the Gypsy's rose falls  
in his lap

musk  
rising from the petaled labia  
a red rose

swirled to the center  
stillness without moving  
rose petals

ruby lights  
darkness in a rose  
crisscrossing

ocean cliff  
deepening sunset  
wild rose

## **rosemary**

bathing outdoors  
in the rosemary bees  
rubbing buzzing

## **roots**

lightning strikes  
in the roots of trees  
patterns echo

## **sage**

sand sage  
dunes brushed clean  
by spiky flowers

sagebrushed  
rain  
drops



sagebrush raindrops  
mixing with earth odors  
in hot springs

desert air  
invisible smoke of sagebrush  
clear

### **sea rockets**

surf boom  
on the meadow  
sea rockets

### **seaweeds**

waves washing  
rocks covered with palm kelp  
tropical landscapes

### **shore pines**

coming from the sea  
light on shore pines  
blue-green waves

shore pines  
sharp shaped by wind  
of Point Arena

seaside  
curved by shore pines  
rounded rock

### **smoke trees**

writhing on hot sand  
the meager shade  
of smoke trees

heat of the day  
on the desert floor  
smoke trees

desert  
filling the dry river  
smoke trees

flowing  
from rock crevices  
smoke trees

**snapdragon**

snapdragons  
bowing low before the rain  
of the sprinkling can

**stonecrop**

sheer cliff  
ever-bearing  
stone crop

**strawberry**

open fields  
on the tip of his tongue  
a strawberry

tasting  
of wild strawberries  
your tongue

our tongues  
strawberries tasting  
each other

**sweet peas**

sea fog  
swirls in the wild  
sweet peas

**sweet potato**

vacation house plants  
the sweet potato vine  
in a mason jar

**sunflower**

a kerosene lamp  
filling the pitcher  
with sunflowers

sunflower  
in a month of petals  
counting the days

## **thistle**

shiny wet  
the sketch of thistle down  
in black ink  
behind the new fence  
his one weed gazes at  
my stand of thistles

## **thorn**

wind echo  
thorny trees sough  
'round rocks  
desert thorns  
holding sunset  
on the summit  
thorns  
summer's afternoon  
holding still

## **tomato**

tearing off  
yellowed tomato leaves  
the old woman pauses  
tomatoes cooking  
suddenly it's August  
I'm six and home

## **trees**

guilt trip  
summer dead brown trees  
driving route twenty  
sentinel peak  
the best view watched  
by the oldest tree  
thinking -  
the oldest trees refuse  
to cross the river

## **vegetables**

classical music  
vegetables rotting  
in a basket

all those tree fruits  
and summer vegetables  
now this child

- for Julia Johanna Ewerth

**wallflowers**

sea cliff meadow  
thick with wallflowers  
unable to hold the wind

**water lilies**

water lilies  
centers of the pond  
close at night  
in still ponds - lilies  
in their centers - silence  
the shore - far away

**watermelon**

summer's heat  
swallowed up by the gap  
in the watermelon

**weeds**

hill meadow  
mostly upright  
citizen flowers

**wild flowers**

wild flower walk  
greeting the spirits  
with Latin names  
wild flowers  
the twitter of swallows  
passing through  
shaping  
petals of wild flowers  
ocean breezes

**yarrow**

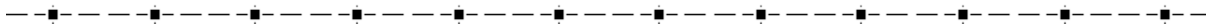
from the beach  
the bottle with a message  
yellow yarrow

**yucca**

root system  
of the dried yucca  
lizard family

**zucchini**

green fires  
zucchini growing  
with the heat  
summer revenge  
taking zucchini to the neighbor  
whose lettuce we ate  
having an old friend  
for dinner  
the largest zucchini



**AUTUMN Moods**

**abandoned**

still standing  
where others lived  
abandoned cabin  
abandoned  
a photo of someone's eyes  
moving in the wind  
one bird  
its cry so human  
alone

**accepting aging**

wrinkling up  
along the shore  
an old ocean  
mom leaves  
the door partly open  
her many years  
cricket shapes  
arthritic knuckles  
of shortened days

child's fingers  
trace on grandma's hands  
the liver spots of aging

an old sea crone  
remembering mermaid tales  
as true

hot flashes  
blushes of youth  
getting old

grandmother squeezing  
on her driver's license  
the name of many men

### **arguments**

box canyon walls  
being with someone  
you hate

in box canyon  
the narrow-mined couple  
argue

after the quarrel  
chewed cheeks  
saying the words

### **belief in spirits**

sacred grove  
a spirit trade  
oaks and I

fairy ring  
all past secrets  
come to light

spirit circle  
journeys from thing to thing  
pass-me-not

mountain wind  
the spirit eye sees  
traveling far

sunset  
illumination of other worlds  
clouds

flute notes  
in spirit rocks  
answers

leaving  
in a dream soul  
in the lizard

morning cliffs  
two crows play tag  
with spirit shadows

spirit pictures  
etched in sandstone  
the unseen hand

spirit bodies  
waving from cacti  
plastic sacks

Nevada spirit lands  
garbage blowing  
in bushes

spirit in retreat  
cleaning first the black stove  
a cup of cold water

mission spirits  
in swallows and pigeons  
birds of paradise

morning light  
stretches down the cliff  
its spirit shape

## **decay**

waiting room  
a patch of sunlight  
wears out the chairs  
recycling old glass  
the rocky beach  
jewel-covered coves

windless surf  
how easily the old folks  
are entertained

worn-down hills  
folding into earth  
an old dog sits

elephant parade  
the old aunt absently fingers  
her throat

clown's old car  
when it falls apart  
papa doesn't laugh

surprised  
in the dark blood  
is black

his hot cheeks  
whitened by moonlight  
the reformed poet

a howling wind  
at the deep ache  
a broken bone

weathered palms  
the scythe well-sharpened  
worn in the center

an old woman  
carrying a balloon  
dusk lowers

footsteps  
a language of cripples  
writing

death by death  
with the passing of a friend  
my own nears

afternoon sun  
on grandma's brown hands  
star wrinkles

the stable roof  
shingle for shingle  
coming down

*Ikebana*  
*centered around the leaf*  
*with worm holes*

*cracked*  
*the antique china cup fills*  
*a break in my lifeline*



rented house  
wishing my night gown  
had all its buttons

autumn path  
a stick talking to stone  
the blind man's way

## **fears of deception**

moonlighting  
the thief employed  
as security guard

petrified forest  
you buy a souvenir  
for your lover

your lies  
as many sizes of the moon  
I should believe?

heartless  
the moon's bright body  
attracts lovers

garlic toes  
clinging to his voice  
the salesman

prayers  
our feet stuck in sands  
whispering about us

casting doubts  
clouds on the hills  
on her face

used car salesman  
a banana peel lies  
three feet from his

after lies  
seeing by moonlight  
whose who is what

## **emptiness**

cold crescent moon  
sound of a boat leaving  
with the departed

mother's death  
the umbilical cord to earth  
empty  
empty  
the vacation house watches  
us drive by  
her heat  
even the ashes  
not cool  
without them  
hanging on to things  
of parents  
seeing the old home  
to fill the emptiness  
chattering birds  
a nest  
found in autumn  
the empty sky  
empty afternoon  
eyes and ears fill  
with tears  
as empty as  
Sunday afternoon's envelope  
your rejection is  
filling the washer  
with an empty heart  
your blue shirts  
autumn storms  
locking emptiness  
into summer cabins  
tiredness  
filling the emptiness  
evenings  
used tires  
loaded on a truck  
without wheels  
sea fog  
walking the valley  
with empty hands

**endings**

crossing the road  
shadow of a stop sign  
stops

**fears**

shadows  
of an upright stone  
splashing waves  
lifting a shadow  
the gull frightened  
by waves

**grief**

stone mountain  
saying good-bye to him  
was even harder  
(For Charles B. Dickson)

**jealousy**

jealous lovers  
at sea storm clouds  
with purple waters  
slender moon  
so little fire  
yet you go to him  
tides  
sorting beach debris  
a jealous woman

**leavings**

leaving home  
rain drops in my eyes  
for clearer vision  
grandkids leaving  
the only smiles  
on pictures they drew  
leaving  
the low tide beach  
fills  
facing one another  
the chairs open and empty  
as guests leave

weak fall sun  
chairs by the café sit  
on each other's lap

leaving  
dust holds your footprints  
and me

walking on rocks  
where tears splashed down  
dad's farewell

wind-filled rain  
tears at the leaves  
someone is going

guests gone  
the only stars  
in the sieve

guests gone  
huckleberries ripen  
in the silence

noodle soup  
memories of your visit  
in the left-overs

kissing good-bye  
she feels the edge  
of his pocket

leaving Germany  
raindrops in my eyes  
tears

### **lingering summer thoughts**

autumn's summer heat  
on a white paper you drew  
a smiling sun

### **loneliness**

to sleep alone  
in the light of the moon  
madness

loneliness  
crossing the great plains  
high tension wires

a lonely day  
yet in the afternoon  
a breeze comes by

alone  
in the desert  
wind

on the porch  
mold-speckled pine needles  
my waiting for you

a son's call  
white waves of long distance  
returning to shore

kids gone  
sea waves return to shore  
each alone

foggy Saturday night  
a woman's whiskey-raw voice  
pours from a radio

singing low  
sea-white fog disappears  
beneath the pines

divorced parents  
the cries of the neighbor kids  
deep in the woods

the waitress' tip  
lying in spilled beer  
small brown coins

## **longing**

dreams  
burning desire  
burning

burning pine  
smoke blown about  
my longing

deer at the salt lick  
so my memories of us  
will you return too?

## **loss**

fireplace sunshine  
dark in the burned-out cabin  
weeds

too late  
lovers looking in windows  
of closed shops

touching your left sleeve  
at this moment of parting  
how cold is your coat

watercolor class  
a blue sky pinned to the wall  
falls

a deaf child  
in autumn hearing  
the sleep of seeds

lost  
in hidden valley  
the trail

on the gramophone  
a church in Holland  
where you are tonight

## **passing time**

early morning sun  
on the face of the clock  
time change

time was  
my eyes in the empty place  
where the clock isn't

golden clock hands  
sunshine slants through leaves  
passing time

## **past life experiences**

moon dreams  
a spotlight turns on  
past lives

fingernails  
windows to the past  
lives

white waves returning  
to shore their call  
for me to come home

## **regrets**

low-tide walk  
now deep at sea  
my path

at the waterfalls  
a woman remembering  
a love affair

at least the moon  
when it's full  
comes to my porch

ribbon knots  
tighten a lump in the throat  
as it was that night...

heavy heart  
such a color evenings  
weighs nothing

## **rest**

taking a rest  
I let the city noises  
leak out of my ears

## **sadness**

pillar of sorrow  
the hours alone  
touching it

deep sighing  
waves climb the beach  
and disappear

earth turns  
shadows on a face  
fade and reappear

stepping stones  
go wobbly and uneven  
tears falling

autumn sadness  
yet before the leaf falls  
the swelling bud  
eyelash splash  
curve in the folding  
a wave of tears  
the cutting edge  
your words where the moon  
touches night  
yet another pine  
is the moon ever free  
of the earth?

**unknown**

spirit of a place  
a film  
on the photograph  
breathing heavily  
atop the mountain gorge  
a thick cloud  
knuckles of night  
cold without human flesh  
tap along the roof  
forces  
holding rocks together  
apart  
mountain top  
aglow with the unseen  
moon  
walking paths  
the land fluid  
without feet  
after death  
naming the unknown  
heaven/earth  
voices  
familiar things  
without shadow  
doors  
swinging pendulums  
between outsiders



moon shadows  
coming up the stairs  
a creaking sound  
between two birds  
in bright shapes  
a real name  
flagstones  
then the border blew away  
in colored silk  
surf sounds  
someone was walking  
on trackless sand  
bad dreams  
the shapes of dinner  
eaten late  
night bumps  
all around the house  
other things  
spindrift veils  
above the crashing waves  
finer ones  
without wind  
a door opens  
the candle goes out  
a stand of trees  
in a setting of weeds  
someone kneeling  
standing ajar  
for the passage of souls  
a door in October  
incense  
smoke in the wind chimes  
faint tones of blue  
bones  
hearing sea winds of the dead  
in flute tones  
secret mists  
on the broad river  
lost shadows

lost shadows  
on the dark river  
time curves

a creaking floor  
the moonlight goes  
from room to room

moon path  
on the water where I walk  
a bridge to ...

sunset  
the shadow steps back  
into your heel

two foreign stamps  
found in a dream book  
borrowed

walking on the mountain  
without a step  
going inside of it

still alive  
in knotty pine walls  
dragon eyes

without words  
angels' voices return  
songs

giant forest  
moving between trees  
a deeper darkness

giant forest  
walking the dark road  
night trees

at the pass  
a bright neon-blue bush  
the future

## **the unseen**

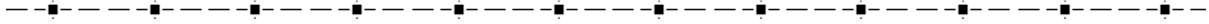
mineral waters  
perfume the skin  
a bright soul

lizard  
in the slits of his eyes  
my soul window

beach wind  
taking off her prayer cap  
unseen temple

**worries**

many night thoughts  
the big dipper tilts  
spilling over



**AUTUMN Occasions**

**All Saints' Day**

All Saints' Day  
pumpkin-grin fangs  
gone with the werewolf

All Saints' Day  
goblins and witches baptized  
with holy names

All Saints' Day  
the Jack-o-lantern  
full of gnats

All Saints' Day  
the moldy pumpkin  
grins with a harelip

All Saints' Day  
filling the pumpkin's eyes  
with raindrops

All Saints' Day  
among the fall colors  
angel food cake

All Souls' Day  
the end table  
bow-legged

**black cats**

moon shadows  
the doormat comes alive  
with a cat's leap

## **cemetery**

Pleasant Ridge  
all the caskets  
side by side

sleeping peacefully  
the Best Western Motel  
by the cemetery

grave marker  
as a cradle headboard  
rest in peace

abandoned cemetery  
iron keys cross the ground  
no one going in

open grave  
the iron shovel lifts  
autumn fragrance

clods from the grave  
sweet potatoes piled in a field  
join at the fence

Death Valley  
emigrant tombstones  
mountain peaks

## **end of summer vacations**

a blob of catsup  
on the postcard  
the missing kiss

## **funerals**

mother  
wearing her shoes  
to her funeral

up in smoke  
all those years  
of her anger

the calling  
of funeral bells  
a shoestring breaks

an open mouth  
funeral bells fill  
earth gap

Funeral Mountains  
at sunset a halo  
of golden clouds  
the bell tolls  
rolling the full moon  
out of darkness  
burial  
driving a car into the trees  
behind the barn

## **ghosts**

sundown  
in ghost town darkness  
two crows  
ghost town  
in an abandoned orchard  
fresh apples  
ghost town road  
in a cloud of red dust  
a dump truck  
wind  
in the waterfall  
white ghosts  
wind in the willows  
ghost of a woman  
basket gathering  
white moon  
filling Death Valley  
ghosts  
ghosts  
in the Joshua trees  
snake death  
ghosts  
Joshua trees  
shape-changing  
dark night  
old sheets turning into  
Halloween ghosts  
in the fog  
ghosts by the cliffs  
change into gulls

## **godless month**

the godless month  
busy with preparations  
for Christmas

## **Halloween**

Halloween  
being scared to sweep  
under the bed  
thunderstorms  
the sky saying "*boo*"  
on Halloween  
Halloween weirdness  
the old fence post sprouts  
a pumpkin face

## **haunted houses**

deserted house  
wild roses still have a view  
of the remote coast  
vacant stares  
from the vacant house  
no one looks

## **Indians**

natives  
guided through the desert  
by water spirits  
desert wind  
whistling through bird bones  
Indian breath  
Indian country  
sign on a winding road  
a broken arrow  
*In Zion Nat'l Park*  
Navajo sandstone  
face of a rock  
weeping  
emerald pools  
in Navajo sandstone  
Indian red

Navajo sandstone  
fissures opening  
to heaven  
painted  
on Indian cave walls  
lizard eyes

### **prayer flags**

*At Odiyan*

prayer flags  
ground shadows  
in weird shapes

prayer flags  
tinkling  
bells

vehicles to heaven  
prayer flags surround  
the used car lot

### **lighting candles**

remembering mom  
the same old fire  
in an altar candle

an altar candle  
lit for your soul journey  
warms my hands

### **pumpkin pie**

pumpkin pies  
remembering with a grin  
the Jack-o-lantern

### **pumpkins/jack o'lanterns**

light  
from the pumpkin's grin  
a full moon

moonrise  
wind blows out the light  
in the pumpkin

carved pumpkin  
admiring our art the moon  
comes on the porch

enlightened  
the jack-o-lantern  
has a fat candle  
alone  
going to sleep with a grin  
on the pumpkin  
all the light  
inside of a pumpkin  
this dark night  
light leaking  
the grin of pumpkins  
growing moldy  
together  
lifting the pumpkin  
the curved stem  
night dark  
inside the pumpkin  
its warm glow  
scary Halloween  
the candle in the pumpkin  
goes out  
watching our bed  
the pumpkin's lid  
smokes  
bedside candle  
putting it in  
the pumpkin  
shadows moving  
on the bedroom wall  
a pumpkin's grin  
unable to sleep  
the Jack-o-lantern watches  
us all night  
grandpa  
gives the Jack-o-lantern  
his snag-toothed grin

**school**

kite string  
tightly rolled  
first day of school



just moved  
the chill of giggles  
in the school yard  
backpack of books  
the schoolboy becomes  
a deformed monster  
first day of school  
her bare foot tracks  
still on the beach  
mid-September  
she writes her name for Daddy  
in the sand  
where we shook hands  
in front of our old school  
a dark bruise  
after all these years  
the high school band  
still practices  
still an old maid  
the high school Latin teacher  
on a sentimental journey  
first day of school  
on the mountain ridge  
clouds without thunder  
voices along the road  
after the school bus goes by  
only birds  
river so low  
all the polliwogs gone  
school begins  
beach afternoon  
school girls drinking  
from a paper bag

## **souls**

sea horizons  
the soul stretched  
into bands of blue  
in the headlights  
thud of a dark body  
a soul rushes by

## **Thanksgiving**

colorful Indian corn  
for Thanksgiving dinner  
relatives from afar

Thanksgiving Day  
an old couple on the pier  
fishing

cold turkey  
in bed on Thanksgiving  
with the sniffles

Thanksgiving Day  
seeing an old neighbor  
after her surgery

thanks giving  
the first cup of water  
tipped to the earth

Thanksgiving Day  
after the storm  
beachcombing

Thanksgiving Day  
grapes on an heirloom plate  
half-eaten

desert Thanksgiving  
cold turkey sandwiches  
under the one tree

blood relatives  
for Thanksgiving dinner  
red beets

## **trick or treating**

trick or treating  
with kids only the moon  
older than I

without a soul  
faces grin in the dark  
on Halloween

no one home  
yet a face grins on the porch  
Halloween

going into dark times  
children dressed as grown-ups  
begging

## **worship**

from India  
the strange white bird  
in a yoga position  
banner of belief  
lace at the edges  
crumbling  
granite altar  
water not wine  
wind flowing  
ancient shrine  
just a roof  
upon the path  
chapel  
hidden on the ceiling  
pagan symbols  
cloister walls  
shutting in  
the outer world  
holy mountain  
among the Bishop pines  
bluebirds  
late to church  
daylight saving  
unholy times  
back home  
covered with dust  
magic sparkles

## **witches**

before the coven  
how the witches park  
their cars  
new age witch  
in her Honda  
a whiskbroom

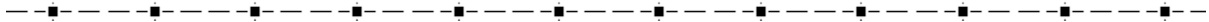
magic symbols  
drawn with blood  
this holy space  
eggshells ashbone  
white of the moon  
in a witch's spell  
a little spilled wine  
ageless women in the circle  
of a full moon

## wreath

falling from the wreath  
frost  
flowers  
a wave curls  
tumbling over a wreath  
buried at sea

## Veterans' Day

the Vietnam Vet  
in his eyes  
my debt



## AUTUMN Celestial

## afternoon

late afternoon  
water leaking out  
of the cove  
afternoon nap  
a visit with angels  
how you snore  
between fingers  
the empty air  
of afternoon

## **beginning of autumn**

cricket silence  
between scraping sounds  
autumn begins

## **bright blue weather**

the sky  
because it is that old  
that blue  
October's  
bright blue weather  
out to sea  
blue sky  
coming into the tree's shadow  
salt winds  
blue autumn skies  
folded into mountains  
purple shadow

## **cold night**

night winds blow  
on the cabin bed  
another quilt

## **close of autumn**

autumn  
taking a dirt road  
to the end of it  
a summer hike  
in mountain shadows  
finding autumn

## **clouds**

clouds  
turning off the lights  
outside the house  
mountain stream  
afternoon clouds washed  
out to sea  
shy before the moon  
she too slips behind  
autumn clouds

## **cold**

mountain cold  
getting under a blanket  
to sleep with me

white fish fillet  
the sky fills up  
with cooler air

after the shower  
cool wind in the bathrobe  
hangs on a nail

canyon click  
nothing on film  
like the cold wind

## **dark rain**

in the dark of night  
who would have thought  
rain was round

dark castle  
atop the mountain  
rain clouds

one at a time  
rainclouds falling  
dark into the sea

rainy night  
the path home  
a black umbrella

## **drought**

the roof  
leaves in a drought year  
in the rain gutter

## **dusk**

dusk  
last light caught  
in tears

darkness  
the wideness of things  
fills the distance

at dusk  
voices call out  
stars

tangled branches  
coming darkness  
woven in  
a wave breaks white  
a gull folds its wing  
as the sea darkens  
autumn wind  
the way it turns things around  
at dusk  
dusk  
the room larger than the persons  
filling it  
dusk  
shaking out the tablecloth  
a whir of wings

## **eclipse**

eclipse  
white rocks in the garden  
bright round

## **evening**

just now  
with the incoming tide  
supper time  
evenings  
the long pale waves  
come ashore  
evening comes  
wrapped in sea fog  
tied with webs  
evening sea fog  
descending into sun-dried grass  
sweaty lovers  
evening ebb tide  
the beach widens  
into a flat sea  
evening glow  
dark the sea  
shot with color

evening  
waves come into the cove  
one at a time

dust  
so fine the evenings  
golden air

evening as it is  
the light lays hot  
upon our eyelids

evening  
corners move into the room  
blown by dark

evening  
in a secret cove  
fog bound

evening wind  
colors of the day  
blown away

evening winds  
the tiny bay filled  
up to the cliff

## **eventide**

somber at eventide  
faces in sandstone  
approaching autumn

## **equinox**

autumn equinox  
cool wind comes scented  
sun-hot pine needles

autumn equinox  
putting porch furniture away  
getting it out again

fall equinox sun  
coming through cedar box trees  
anthology plans

## **fog**

fog moves  
as children's hands wave good-bye  
Sunday evening



whiteness  
fog erasing the landscape  
history  
sea fog  
blowing in the valley  
shapes of hills  
broken fence  
river valley fog patches  
the gaping holes  
sadness  
fog leaving  
the sea  
fog shrouded  
a sky without directions  
the unknown way  
ocean roar  
washing dishes  
with fog  
gray foggy days  
womb warm with light filtered  
through a membrane  
closing  
the notebook  
fog  
more fog  
in the notebook  
nothing  
alone together  
behind us fog closed  
the Golden Gate

## **hurricane**

the wind's eye  
against the glass  
a hurricane

## **Indian summer**

Indian summer  
the cold on my teeth  
iced tea

## mist

moon spirits  
the face of the deep  
lightly misted

November spirits  
playing in the meadow  
wisps of mist

rolling hills  
hiding stars  
in autumn mists

## moon

left and right  
the moon bounces over  
a mountain road

painted hills  
the moon of white  
is real

moon  
full of blue light  
desert cool

into valleys  
a moon full  
of valleys

headed out to sea  
the tide-pulling moon  
in the rear view mirror

desert tides  
the moon shapes  
sand stone

a little higher  
another valley fills  
with the moon

quivering branch  
the moon climbs higher  
in the old pine

opening the door  
for more firewood  
there's the moon

from barren trees  
shaking wildly  
serene moves the moon

fields flat with fog  
the radiance of the moon  
fenced with rough slats

moonsky  
starlight bends and fades  
into a halo

higher from earth  
the mountain moon  
brightens

radiance expands  
the moon blows free  
of a rumpled earth

white moon  
filling the dry valley  
with light

in hot springs  
the moon warms itself  
between us

gurgling  
in mineral waters  
the moon bathed

each step  
up the mountain  
the moon whiter

evening mountains  
a line of milky blue  
round the moon

a rack of clouds  
arranged by the moon  
in shapes of white

peeking thru pines  
bright eye of the moon  
my neighbor

crevices  
in the face of rock  
the moon

full white moon  
the colored earth  
rolls around  
rounding  
soft old hills  
an ancient moon

**moonbeams**

moonbeams  
the tender roots of passion  
flowers

**moon crescent (three-day moon)**

a crescent moon  
earth cut off from heaven  
by the fog  
crescent moon  
a bowl of brightness  
full of night

**moon dark**

hollow  
in the dark of the moon  
howling  
a dark moon  
the cold white rim  
of an enamel pan  
close to my moon  
Jupiter with all of his  
brightens the night  
face of the moon  
in the hot tub  
a swirl of bubbles  
moon clouds  
cooling the mountain side  
a sunless shape  
spotlight  
between rocks  
a bit of moon  
white light  
burning up rocks  
moon magic

dark world  
only rocks bright  
where the moon goes  
moving rocks  
moon rolls over the mountain  
none fall  
doorknob  
the moon looks down  
on its tiny self  
rocks  
piled before the moon  
drop back to earth

**moon - full**

the full moon  
walking the island road  
from sea to sea  
full moon  
ripples reflecting  
unseen stars  
so full  
the moon brightens the room  
with poems  
all moon  
filling the secret cove  
with bright water  
a full moon  
drawing down to the sea  
a path of stars  
faint with dews  
the full moon slides  
closer to the sea  
full moon  
holes in stones  
echoes  
mountain  
giving birth to white light  
a round moon  
full moon  
sculpting sandstone  
with light

full moon  
letting him in  
with the light

full moon  
rising over ash mountains  
alkali dust clouds

from earth  
a light moon rises  
tides

moonrise  
in the rear-view mirror  
sunset

full moon  
covering the long dry valley  
with light

desert cool  
rising to the full moon  
desert pool

a full moon  
cutting a lock  
from the cowlick

cabin alone  
the greater moon waits  
our return

a full moon  
the crazy neighbor's lights  
burn all night

closing a slim book  
print shrinks in the face  
of a full moon

bending the pine tree  
with a windy sound  
the full moon

filling the river  
the complete moon covers  
the hole in the bridge

touching her face  
fingerprints on the full moon  
clouds

a full moon  
resting on hoary frost meadows  
tundra swans

full moon moves  
from poem to poem  
through the pine

round moon  
rolling from the ridge  
gray stones here and there

### **moon - harvest**

harvest moon  
watching a mouse hole  
the ginger cat

turning out the light  
renting the room to the moon  
for a night

### **moon - hazy**

a hazy moon  
steam no longer seen  
from the hot tub

clear moon  
rising from a mountain ridge  
darkness on its face

smudged moon  
marked by mountain fires  
soot and smoke

### **moon - hunters**

a hunter's moon  
the o's of howling dogs  
ring in the mists

### **moon - late**

late rising  
the lop-sided moon  
half the night

night  
without poems  
then comes the moon

late moon  
in the poor part of town  
second-hand light

the tiny dawn  
pine mountain releases  
the late moon

ripe huckleberries  
the moon comes up  
streaked with purple

late moon  
shivering before mountains  
cold knees

a falling star  
the nearly round moon  
still not full

## **moonlight**

clear night  
moonlight coats  
feathers

brushing moonlight  
across night skies  
wispy clouds

moonlight  
on the way to dawn  
vivid dreams

green water  
curls into white foam  
moonlight

pale violet sheets  
in silver moonlight  
native hills

moonlight  
in the high desert  
a river

moonlight  
faces in the sandstone cove  
laughing

one half a cup  
of low-fat cottage cheese  
in the moonlight

a window slants  
from a rough stone fireplace  
a square of moonlight



dancing around  
in the moonlight  
outstretched hands

nothing moves  
moonlight touching wind  
chimes

containing  
a dish of moonlight  
ritual salt

moonlight radiance  
behind clusters of dark pine  
white clouds

beach sand  
wet with moonlight  
ebb tide

moonlight  
following raccoons  
across the porch

alone  
how cold the moonlight  
on my bed

sitting in moonlight  
the empty chair full  
of radiance

in my bed  
a spot of moonlight  
the empty pillow

out to cool  
on the porch cakes frosted  
with moonlight

promontory  
holding up moonlight  
crevices of sea caves

moonlight  
clothes from the dryer  
fresh and clean

moonlight  
slipping from her breasts  
the white blanket

covered with moonlight  
the face of the mountain  
my wrinkles

a rock fantasy  
shaped by moonlight  
fears

moonlight highway  
yellow crossing yellow  
line of pee

mountain road  
winding road  
with a yellow line

mountain road  
the glow in the moonlight  
a night snake

moonlight  
reflected from rocks  
into haiku

a little higher  
another valley fills  
with moonlight

autumn leaves  
arranging on the earth  
silver moonlight

glacier-scarred rock  
centuries of moonlight  
echo

moonlight  
in canyon echoes  
stars

moonlight  
your image on the mountain  
echoes forever

eastern peaks  
withholding moonlight  
echo your voice

moonlight  
in the mountain river  
stars echo

moonlight  
shaped by leaves of gold  
silver

mountains  
holding up the moonlight  
the highest peak

two headlights  
four white eyes  
of moonlight

moonlight  
broken to bits  
by fallen leaves

draping moonlight  
over your image  
a leafless tree

rolling to the crest  
moonlight touches each  
tree black

autumn  
leaves on the earth  
silver moonlight

a black stove  
warming a square  
of moonlight

### **moon new**

round rocks  
the new moon rises  
old

water striders  
on a pale pond  
moons

cactus spines  
above the desert  
a slender moon

### **moon - quarter**

incoming tide  
curves of spindrift flung high  
a quarter moon

sewing by hand  
slowly it comes together  
the half-round moon

quarter moon  
on the night table  
a book face up

quarter moon  
such a face of darkness  
yet you go to him

my longing  
voices ask the moon  
for news of him

awake  
waiting for the moon  
him

waiting for moonrise  
the scribbled haiku  
illegible

washing dishes  
that half of the moon  
makes them shine

mountain winds  
half the moon  
blown away

reflecting  
on the quarter moon  
broken granite

alone in the hot tub  
the quarter moon seems  
only half there

## **moon rise**

rising  
above lava mountains  
the cratered moon

sparks  
above the rising moon  
a plane lands

fire my companion  
too faithful to go outside  
see the cold moon rise

a rising moon  
her scoop-necked blouse  
moves with her breath

unable to hold back  
moonrise  
the cry of pleasure

over mountains  
the moon rises roughly  
scarred

moon rise  
winds from those barren rocks  
moving black pines

scratching his back  
from crooked pines  
rises the moon

pine needles  
radiating light from dark limbs  
moon rise

moon rise  
waiting in darkness  
all of us trees

### **moon rainbows**

salty sea fogs  
on closed meadow flowers  
moon rainbows

mountain pass  
night's bright rainbow  
a haloed moon

full moon  
in a veil of clouds  
round rainbows

### **moon shadow**

moon shadows  
writing letters deep  
into the night

in my moon shadow  
the neighbor's gray cat  
warms itself

moon shadows  
when the wispy clouds  
blow free

moon shadow  
curving into darkness  
fear

moon shadows  
writing in a journal  
daydreams

## **moon - sinking**

darkness  
sinking into the sea  
craters of the moon

stars scattered  
a few fishing boats gather  
by the sinking moon

showers pass  
on each dark stone  
a tiny round moon

moon set  
now it's right - how it fits  
Half Moon Bay

full the moon  
setting into the sea  
earth fragrance

midnight  
the full moon shines  
a bit flat

going out to sea  
the moon fills spaces  
with my eyes

growing bright  
a fog bank at sea  
melts the moon

night cooler now  
the moon has slipped  
into the sea

guiding the moon  
into the sea  
boat lights

pulling its path  
down into the sea  
the sinking moon

a brightness  
smudging the night  
the moon is gone

easing the moon  
into gentle seas  
your snoring

among starfish  
the changing moon sinks  
into the sea

moonset at dawn  
the sea floor dark  
and without water

cold moon  
slipping into the sea  
the octopus' eye

damp and dim  
half the moon  
in the water

scattering bright stars  
the spent moon sinks  
into the sea

bending down  
sea clouds slip free  
once more the moon

drawn to the porch  
by the gold of the moon  
sinking into the sea

a huge white wave  
the foam becomes  
the sinking moon

the moon has set  
a cold smell  
in the fireplace

shivering  
the moon sinks  
into cold seas

moon set  
a glass of milk  
to stay awake

**moon snow**

Grand Canyon  
cold to the rim  
moon snow

**moon valleys**

moon valleys  
shimmering in the shadows  
beads of light

**moon waning**

waning  
the moon comes north  
enters my window

ebb tide  
the moon and anemone  
no longer round

**moon waxing**

down the highway  
the waxing moon comes  
to Half Moon Bay

**moon winds**

rising  
out of the weight of mountains  
moon and cool breeze

flying by  
the wind-swept moon  
bent pines

spinning  
out of the mountain's darkness  
white moon winds

moon wind  
the full radiance sails  
from the rippled ridge

pine-needle clusters  
redrawing the moon  
each gust of wind



## morning

autumn morning  
a torn shoulder muscle  
wakes first

eastern peaks  
autumn stains the morning sky  
red and gold

first cold dawn  
using my old straw hat  
to start the fire

## morning dew

morning dews  
coming out a cedar house  
the whole forest

## night

autumn nights  
filling the wind  
with other things

night  
rocks soften  
disappear

darkness  
light's last rays lose  
a name

daylight goes  
yet we shall stay here  
where the stars are

world thick  
slat cabin walls  
on dark nights

nights  
light broken into stars  
neighbor's lights

shore-line nights  
by waves of darkness  
the air shaped

## sea

river bends  
into the summer sun  
autumn's ocean

late afternoon  
giant boulders dry  
letting the tide ebb

a line of sea foam  
the ocean hesitates  
and then recedes

low tide  
alone on the beach  
autumn

a door slams  
out in the bay  
a wave collapses

### **sea fog**

low clouds  
pressing the sea  
flat

autumn sea fog  
coming the same way  
sadness

### **shorter days**

shorter days  
the clothesline doesn't reach  
the sun

### **skies**

a gust of wind  
earth tosses up a sky  
of fallen leaves

### **starry night**

I'm not old  
all night my eyes have held  
ancient stars

a starry night  
somewhere a windmill creaks  
as the earth turns

so loud  
the noise of stars one can't hear  
the wind

evening star  
under the dark wings  
of gulls

## **storm**

autumn storms  
shaking moonlight  
from leaves

thunder  
neighbor with a leaky roof  
nails faster

before the storm  
sunset clouds too  
all mixed up

full storm fury  
the quarter moon beams down  
just quiet

such a storm!  
on the roof are falling  
all the stars

sea-storm clouds  
bodies by Michaelangelo  
ring the horizon

out of storm  
heavy clouds letting down  
night

moon halo  
keep us safe  
from tomorrow's storm

talk of war  
unpredicted a storm  
blows in

## **sunset**

sun setting  
in beach sand  
blue pits

with the sun ball gone  
gold pours the horizon wide  
sky to sea

sunset  
sky and sea dyed golden  
from a smallish ball

sea sky line  
drawing the sun down  
distorted

for tired eyes  
after sunset gentle colors  
releasing the light

evening sun  
in that place tomorrow  
I won't be

sunset  
moonset leaving alone  
low tide

summit peaks  
scraping a sulfur match  
at sunset

sunset  
lighting a blaze  
in a dark fireplace

stumbling  
the sky at dusk  
a bruise

sunset  
painting wet sand  
purple

wide horizons  
spreading the colors  
of a long-gone star

munching gingersnaps  
desert mountains swallow  
the evening sun

sunset  
lighting a fire  
in cedar logs

sunset rays  
stringing masts together  
the city skyline

sunset  
warming each incoming wave  
a secret cove

sunset  
the cresting wave  
catches fire  
beyond the mountain  
the setting sun  
other friends

ocean coast  
bending into a bay  
sunset rays

coming ashore  
each wave brings gold  
from the setting sun

sun setting  
into broken clouds  
shore lights

scattered pastels  
the sun sets its colors  
here and there

evening sun  
blown by sea wind  
into an island

the burned place  
in the sky  
at sunset

horizons  
the full moon at sunset  
circling

tops of thunderclouds  
sharing with us mortals  
last rays of the sun

the sun sank  
into a bar of clouds  
missing the sea

sundown  
the unheated ocean  
ice blue

light on the sea  
from a sunken island  
sunset

sunset on a wall  
through uneven stones  
starlight

**twilight**

twilight  
purple mountains sink  
into purple sky

**waiting for the moon**

sun-warmed  
the smell of earth  
hides the moon

rolling downhill  
moon watchers hike  
up the mountain

in the dark  
two trees on the ridge  
found by the moon

waiting for moonrise  
the page darkens  
with poems

curved light  
carved out of the hill  
moonrise

**Venus**

hand hidden  
in the soul given to others  
her Venus pulse

**wind**

shooting arrows  
autumn winds shred  
the straw target

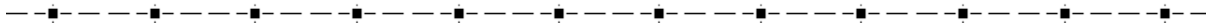
wind  
measuring time  
in her breast

autumn winds  
the smell of a fingernail  
torn loose

mountains  
rocked to sleep  
by gusty winds  
autumn wind  
a river from the evening star  
into the sea  
wind  
on a starless night  
the way home  
night winds  
binding the house  
with darkness

white dew

white dew  
from cinder clouds  
moon clouds  
white dew  
rising from cinder peaks  
morning clouds  
white dew  
finding places everywhere  
I can't sleep



## **AUTUMN Terrestrial**

**ashes**

cinders  
forgotten  
thoughts  
lava hills  
ashes sparsely covered  
with ghost weeds  
lava pumice  
the part-time cook  
recognizes something

## **canyons**

canyon walls  
curved enough for clouds'  
shadows to climb

desolate canyon  
with only one note  
a bird calls

desolate canyon  
the apple rotten  
at the core

canyon rim rocks  
dwarf pines cling  
with every root

canyon rim  
something in me flies  
over precipices

canyon rim walls  
the sound of zippers  
going up down jackets

canyon silence  
skims the wind  
a roar at the rim

music box canyon  
wind in the dry river  
like water running

canyon ledges  
stones return the music  
to wind

## **cemetery**

cemetery wind  
sounds in the shells  
of one's ears  
all of their possession  
side by side  
cemetery plots

out of the cemetery  
the first laugh  
a cold wind



thunder  
knees on graveyard earth  
tremble

their eyes closed  
to a million dollar view  
a seaside cemetery

crossroads cemetery  
the old man asks  
the way home

buried here  
autumn woods are full  
of ancestors

riverside cemetery  
late in autumn  
chilled waters still

leaving the cemetery  
sunrise  
on frost-cracked soil

burial ground  
naked trees veil  
the sunrise

walking the land  
that has taken my parents  
their years

wheels of the hearse  
packing the powdery snow  
into useless patterns

## **dust devils**

swirling white clouds  
on the desert floor  
dust devils

neighbors  
on the road in litigation  
dust devils

## **craters**

crater winds  
blowing back in  
a thousand years

crater  
where the earth exploded  
a couple argue

**graves**

photographing  
the graves  
without film  
church bells  
a spade cuts through  
stony ground  
open grave  
frosted air penetrates  
deep into earth  
tending the graves  
the dirt under my nails  
is just a beginning  
childless  
standing beside a mother  
at a child's grave  
out of the grave  
the sinking casket  
pushes the light  
a frosty night  
gravestones rise  
the width of a crack  
hole in the silence  
grave diggers alone  
lower the coffin  
between the graves  
fences between friends  
falling apart  
visiting graves  
the stone at dusk  
warms  
visiting graves  
stone gardens lengthen  
autumn's cool  
his grave  
filled with  
his earth

his grave  
covered with  
my sky  
rain  
covering his grave  
with low clouds  
juicy blackberries  
under the tangled vines  
a forgotten grave  
after visiting graves  
a night of fever-chills  
their nightmares  
late afternoon  
afraid to take nap  
while visiting graves

### **gravestones**

last daughter  
selling his house  
setting a stone  
"gone but not forgotten"  
the white obelisk  
in a patch of weeds  
forgetting where  
the family stone  
sinks in  
tombstones  
marking those things  
that don't die

### **deserted beach**

deserted beach  
alone with the waves  
of Septemberness  
October beach  
in all the footprints  
the tread of shoes

### **harvested fields**

autumn blooms  
soft white cotton balls  
a harvest field

brown harvest field  
the balls of white cotton  
polka dots

## **hills**

maple hills  
stain the evening sky  
autumn

barren hills  
yet patches of purple  
shadow

## **home**

steps to the cabin  
where you once lived  
low in broken grass

selling the house  
the scratch of a pen  
in the family name

a chain of old keys  
in a closed house  
unlocking memories

the deed signed  
taking down the birdhouse  
dad built

bodies buried  
and now the house belongs  
to someone else

village lights  
stretch down the road  
draw us home

the afternoon sun  
slants over a hand-made house  
paints it September

selling the house  
one last swim in the lake  
the water's calm

flying home  
at 35,000 feet my folks  
are not here either

nights the dripping roof  
walks alone around the house  
on one leg

## hot springs

hot springs  
cool in the river  
a jasper stone  
desert storm  
at the resort  
hot springs  
mineral baths  
at night the many colors  
in dreams  
Death Valley  
the underground river  
a healing spring  
moonlight  
around the hot springs  
dried salt  
in healing waters  
stars  
old bodies  
soul bathing  
in hot springs  
desert stars  
Ley lines  
lines  
drawn into the earth

## other times

earth lines  
converging  
flute tones  
walking  
the line within  
the mountain

## meadow

a moonlit meadow  
all the nun are dressed up  
as clowns

a moonlit meadow  
chanting women give a voice  
to dark ages

sea meadow ridge  
the broken fence moves  
when the cows come home

## **moor**

heather moors  
rolled r's of wind  
between the boulders

patchwork quilt  
the rumpled beds  
of heather

clouds of fog  
hovering over stems  
white heather

voices winding  
through the heather moor  
patterned paths

## **mountains**

Death Valley  
in a bluish haze  
spectral mountains

mountain peaks  
folding in prayer  
for centuries

desert basin  
mountains washed  
down flat

light  
leaving in the mountains  
a distance

salt patterns  
mountain shapes  
blue twilight

even mountains  
gentle easing into earth  
Death Valley

alkali clouds  
over lava mountains  
moonrise

wind mountain  
inverted in the crater  
invisible

movement of a bush  
an animal the wind  
of mountains moving

white clouds  
bury the mountains  
in deepest black

mountains between us  
holding back the dawn  
hours of my longing

mountain caves  
wind carving empty  
eye sockets

## **ritual ground**

bodies  
on Indian ritual ground  
wrecked cars

where Indians died  
the carcasses of ponies  
of old cars

Indian rocks  
the night hawk's spirit  
with a whirl of wings

## **ridges**

pages torn  
from a sketchbook  
far mountain ridges

## **river**

autumn river  
covering my feet wet  
with golden leaves

quiet eddy pools  
swirl at ankles in autumn  
the ancient dead

in this light  
flowing through the ages  
desert river

fall  
rocks tumble down  
a dry river bed

white water  
well-washed river  
spirits

white ghost waves  
rocky river ripples  
roll upstream

wind rushing  
into the valley  
rockwater

the top of the rock  
in the bottom of the pool  
another stone

winding river road  
the giant forest  
approaches night

## **seas**

atop the mountain  
mammoth rocks stare down  
a smooth gray sea

bright sun  
on the long waves of autumn  
end of a day

night  
the horizon sinks into the blue  
water

## **stones**

stones  
in the desert landscape  
my bones

ascending alone  
the threshold to heaven  
barren rock



dry riverbed  
in one of its rocks  
dreamless sleep

monoliths  
shaping the moonlight  
granite

moon bright  
where a rock fell away  
shining

## **streets**

strangers  
on the city side walks  
one has his laugh

lamplight  
straightening the street  
of narrow houses

## **temples**

approaching the temple  
grasses rub the body  
of a snake

logging road  
cut trees that never come  
to the temple

before the temple  
lizards turn  
the grass brown

climbing temple hill  
leg muscles tighten  
in our throats

breathless  
atop the steep hill  
temple pagoda

breathless  
climbing to the pagoda  
wind

sea winds blow  
from temple copper domes  
holy sunshine

Tibetan temple  
the high-pitched hum  
of an air plane  
to our round eyes  
temple splendors  
a locked gate  
temple secrets  
held together  
a chain link fence  
temple fence  
red and yellow prayer flags  
poison ivy  
holy smells  
free in the air  
between fences  
temple dump  
finding something  
we could see  
Sunday  
morning light from high rocks  
temples  
curving  
the sky dome  
temple roof  
making temples  
a full moon  
on ash mountains

**timberline**

timberline  
granite rocks outgrowing  
the trees

**waterfall**

red rock waterfall  
into emerald pools  
cedar incense  
water blackened rocks  
falling with the waterfall  
some of them

chipped rock  
the shape of water  
falling

white rim  
on black rock light falling  
with the water

**woods**

old forest  
on bare paths  
moths

**valleys**

night shadows  
the valley floor rises  
into the sky

tired  
valley slopes  
sag

the earth turns  
in the valley  
a river bends

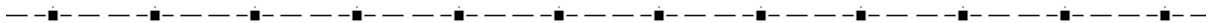
Death Valley  
saving light at dusk  
salt

Death Valley  
open blue skies  
clouded

**vineyards**

pale fog  
yellow vineyards over  
champagne cellars

wine-tasting  
at the family-run vineyard  
a cat too



## **AUTUMN Livelihood**

### **canning**

cloud jeweled day  
blackberry jam  
on the windowsill  
  
huckleberry jam  
all the tiredness  
up in jars

### **cooking**

old maid's tea  
pouring boiling water  
on unopened flowers  
  
soup bubbles  
the past lives of vegetables  
throbbing with heat  
  
pepper shaker  
in gathering darkness  
a sharp sound  
  
dinner over  
the knife is clean and  
the cup is empty  
  
autumn rain  
walking about in stocking feet  
tasting the soup

### **clothing**

old buttons  
threaded on strings  
lips closed  
  
a blue coat  
the length and width  
of a shadow  
  
his old jeans  
pockets torn to flaps  
in full possession  
  
early autumn day  
just right for throwing away  
old tennis shoes

## cremation

her ashes  
forgetting  
the bad times

## cutting wood

morning trees  
feeling the woodcutters  
coming to work

chain saw stilled  
the sound of the ocean  
comes into view

old forest  
cutting across the road  
chain saws

clear cut  
a sign on the stump  
*no trespassing*

the mountain path  
being drawn through the woods  
a sound of saws

chopped kindling  
the axe head warms  
scarlet weather

silence  
above a chain saw  
a tree bends

going bald  
the logger  
the mountain

years going out  
the rings of a tree  
just cut down

puff of exhaust  
our earth's lungs  
hauled to the mill

farts  
the logging truck  
shifts down

sawdust  
exciting the air  
with sunlight

## **drinking**

driftwood  
women at the bar  
bleached and scarred  
singing low  
sea-white fog disappears  
into bar lights  
life on the river  
muddy water saloon  
mountain still  
drinking  
in water the colors  
of painted canyon

## **dying**

easing  
into death  
into earth  
angel wings  
the skeleton's feet  
arranged in bones  
edge of the cliff  
the old couple discuss  
going home  
my parents  
their breath gone  
yet the wind blows  
last sip  
bitter taste of earth  
in the water  
death rattle  
the bookmark in his Bible  
does not move

## **fire starting**

morning sun  
the basket of fire-starting  
twigs white with frost

**firing clay**

sunset's glow  
the heat in clay pots  
being fired

**harvest**

gathering chestnuts  
in the fall  
a crack  
returning year after year  
to this one place  
chestnuts and harvesters  
chestnut burrs  
open and defenseless  
after harvest

**hunting**

a hunting dog  
turning the stones  
into quail  
pulled taut  
his long eyelashes  
at the bow  
a man with a gun  
goes alone into the forest  
of armless hunters

**Indians**

almost there  
searching the dust  
for moccasin tracks  
no one home  
the Indian village  
of house trailers

**lace curtains**

home from the dentist  
he brushes his teeth  
by a lace curtain  
wearing the lace  
behind thin clouds  
the moon

**lamps**

a kerosene lamp  
filling the pitcher  
with sunflowers

**making home movies**

long dead  
he laughs and speaks jerkily  
super eight home movie

**moon-viewing**

watching the moon  
grandma goes to sleep  
with her glasses on

**mushroom gathering**

carrying umbrellas  
strangers in the woods  
hunt mushrooms

**music**

autumn sun  
in a far cabin corner  
a dulcimer  
putting the dulcimer away  
the last note lingers  
drops to the floor

**raking/burning leaves**

gusts of wind  
raking leaves in a pile  
without hands  
autumn's dusk  
the smell of burning leaves  
brings tears to my eyes

**rummage sales**

rummage sale  
at the Lutheran church  
a rosary

**scarecrow**

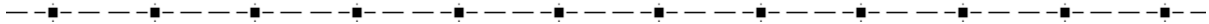
leaning scarecrow  
real estate dealers also  
are not upright



new owners  
the familiar scarecrow  
left his post

## **writing home**

autumn evening  
adding a long postscript  
to mom's letter



## **AUTUMN Animals**

### **bats**

dim stars  
in the same sky  
bats hiding  
hidden in one palm  
hundreds of bats  
at the oasis  
last light of day  
into the clearing curves  
the first bat  
dipped in dark  
bats streak  
twilight skies

### **blackbird - red winged**

flying with him  
red spots on the shoulders  
of the black bird

### **cat - old**

an old yellow cat  
paws tucked under her chest  
waiting for a mouse-moon

### **cicada**

the cicada's cry  
leaves in the maples  
brittle gold

cicadas  
as if they'd won  
a poetry contest  
red-eyed cicada  
wet from molting  
softer than their cry

**cormorant**

beached boat  
each rib extended  
by a cormorant

**cows coming home**

setting sun  
blocked out by cows  
following it home

**coyote**

cracked stones  
a coyote's howl  
widens the gap  
Joshua trees  
ragged in night skies  
a coyote's cry  
light  
in the coyote's eye  
playing tricks

**cranes/storks come**

cold wind ruffles  
breast feathers of a gray bird  
rumors of war

**cricket**

lightning flash  
into the sound of rain  
a cricket shrills  
nights  
where you touched me  
a cricket chirps  
parental home  
several crickets  
keeping house

slower pulse  
of an autumn evening  
crickets

the candle dims  
a creaking door cricket  
changes form

## **crow**

a crow's wing tips  
sweeps from the clouds  
dark rain drops

crow wings  
roughened by wind  
ridged by a cliff

crows landing  
autumn descends early  
in a valley town

two crows  
chasing each other  
twilight

ebb tides  
a flock of crows pulled  
from sea caves

crow in rocks  
a crack of black quartz  
holds a nest

a light rain  
not falling in places  
the crow flies

Death Valley  
the crow stands beside  
his shadow

hard black white  
sun on the crow's wing  
before darkening trees

## **crow cawing**

a crow cawing  
so he too has swallowed  
a fish bone

translating  
Japanese into English  
crows

a calling of crows  
crisscrossing the air  
dark streaks flap

**deer**

a bending of leaves  
as a deer in passing  
a sound

steepening the hillside  
deer nibble wild flowers  
above the autumn sea

deer hunters  
soft brown eyes  
reflecting blue

in velvet  
the deer with his look  
of questions

deer hunters  
guns leaning against the sky  
blue eyes

dead grass  
deer bones  
exposed

from the cabin  
smells of supper cooking  
a deer nibbles grass

frost and moonlight  
separated  
a dark deer shape

becoming  
hillside bushes  
deer

bronze bracken  
the downed deer  
not found

a boy watching  
a deer dying  
turns with a jerk

a stag's cry  
a human voice  
echoes in me

lovesick  
one wild deer  
in me

calling  
the cry of deer  
human desire

also in meditation  
to the river bank deer  
come down to drink

moonlight  
making in her snowy belly  
wild-doe milk

evening wind roars  
still the nearby stag  
hears my uneven breath

### **dragonflies**

trudging up the path  
where the hill is the steepest  
a dragonfly

bridging worlds  
the grass stalk bent  
by the dragonfly

dragonflies  
giving to their wings  
afternoon skies

### **insects' cry**

lantern light  
voices in the grass  
ring my shadow

at our farewell  
insects chirp in the grasses  
our lips dry

### **jackal**

a jackal howls  
a black mountain opens  
moon light doors

## **monarch butterflies**

sun in darkness  
monarch butterflies  
orange and black

## **migrating fowl**

flight of a bird  
unmarked  
a feather falls  
high in autumn  
a dark bird struggles  
against the wind  
pelicans gathered  
ready to journey south  
my bag is packed  
migrating ducks  
changing colors of the lake  
to autumn  
desert lake  
roosting place  
for water chickens  
floating on the lake  
the human voices  
of ducks  
dusk  
horizon drawn by a line  
of ducks

## **owl**

an owl hoots  
the autumn wind blowing  
through the o's  
flying  
in a dream an owl  
leaves a cry  
the moon rises  
day fades into the sound  
of owl feathers

## **peasant**

dark trees  
as a pheasant's call  
night fall

liberated  
the peasant hen  
leaves the cock

## **quail**

picking grass seeds  
how lightly quail go  
over the land

the female quail  
only there  
when she moves

quail crossing  
hill to hill  
a shaft of sunlight

rolling  
a flock of quail  
on the run

eating the quail  
that ate the peas  
planted for winter

shadows moving  
the forest floor turns  
to quail

a mother quail  
followed by her fifteen  
separate shadows

## **raccoon**

stolen plums  
rounding out the tummies  
of raccoon

aware  
raccoons on the porch  
in my sleep

a dream of bears  
raccoon on the porch  
peek in the window

## **red dragonfly**

red upon red  
dragonflies chasing  
autumn

## **salmon**

smoked salmon  
a harvest moon rises  
in autumn haze

smoked salmon  
evening sky invites  
the neighbors in

## **scorpion**

middle of the night  
where scorpions creep  
in cracks

knitting needles  
the clack of scorpions  
mating

a piece of night  
breaks off to strike  
a scorpion

lightning strikes  
at the door a scorpion  
tries to get in

unable to work  
the scorpion and I stare  
at each other

on his back  
the scorpion's mate  
dead

wood on wood  
the dry scrap of scorpions  
crawling between

## **shadflies**

the many feet  
myriads of beach flies  
a caressing wind

high tide  
backs against the cliff  
shadflies

newborn  
flies on the beach  
dark damp sand



## **spirit birds**

following  
a vein of quartz the eye  
of a spirit hawk

## **squirrel**

up the tree  
the squirrel stops at the sign  
"vote for supervisor ..."  
a gray squirrel  
tire tracks  
in his wet fur

## **termite**

termite tunnel  
curved by a cypress  
long in the wind  
rising from roots  
winged termites  
rusty as redwoods

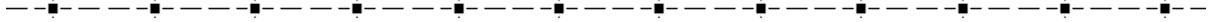
## **turkey**

wild turkey's cry  
in the cabin at dusk  
a door closes  
undulating  
backs of wild turkeys  
blown sea oats

## **vulture**

vulture feather  
white downy fluff  
at the shaft  
nude sun worshipper  
the vultures circle  
the old woman  
a band of sunlight  
on the vulture's wing  
a feather missing  
tangled branches  
vulture shadows  
on the darkening

last light  
out of the cove  
a dark bird



## **AUTUMN Plants**

### **acorns**

oak grove picnic  
slow sound of our chewing  
acorns falling  
jokes in an oak grove  
as acorns fall down  
over our laughing

### **apples**

dad on high  
dropping from his trees  
apples for lunch  
southern sunset  
filling the apple bin  
a deeper red  
applesauce  
the cinnamon glow  
of a kerosene lamp  
windfall apples  
palaces for worms  
American pie  
dad gone two years  
still he cares  
with apples/pears  
baskets in a row  
overflowing with apples  
on one a sweater  
straight falling rain  
tiny lakes upon the tree  
stem hollows of apples

**asters**

broken by the storm  
the asters' fragrance rises  
out of damp earth

**bare bushes**

amid bare bushes  
the flash of a woman's flanks  
squatting to pee

**bare trees**

darkness  
winding the river road  
bare trees

roots in the sky  
the bare tree turns  
an upside down day  
abandoned orchard  
bare branches  
full of apples

hidden all summer  
among the oak branches  
my neighbor's house

autumn storm  
the neighbor closer  
by a bare tree

from the wind  
the flute lesson  
of a bare tree

a frosty night  
in all the trees  
such a letting go

autumn  
the bloodless wounds  
of farewell and leaves

touching a tree  
in palm the sound  
of its bark

**berries**

picking berries  
the brown bear  
of a neighbor

## **brown bracken**

autumn sun  
lying in brown bracken  
both of us  
mountain spring  
a fall of fern  
in autumn  
leaving new friends  
to return home among  
dried sword ferns

## **buckeyes**

higher education  
from the school yard  
these two buckeyes

## **burrs**

an old friend  
chinquapin burrs open  
on smooth fruits

## **cactus**

cactus patch  
enlightenment comes with  
getting the point  
at the point  
of enlightenment  
holy cross cholla

## **chestnuts**

chestnuts we gathered  
as they warm the memories  
of Italian sunshine  
meeting an old friend  
chestnut burrs pressed  
in our folded hands

## **chrysanthemum**

falling down  
the mums not picked  
because you are gone  
autumn rain  
above the dialysis machine  
a withered mum

frost-tipped mums  
gathered in withered arms  
with black sleeves

all in black  
she stoops to save  
frost-tipped mums

chrysanthemums  
with them in the room  
I cannot close my eyes

### **cotton fields**

fall fashions  
the tweedy patterns  
in cotton fields

### **cottonwoods**

canyon crevice  
out of red rock water flows  
into a golden tree

cottonwood  
in the leafless limbs  
starlings

autumn evenings  
cottonwood trees  
seem too cool

cottonwood trees  
the dry sound of rain  
along the river

at the oasis  
wearing the coolness  
of willow and cottonwood

late rains  
high in a river tree  
autumn gold leaves

river of gold  
sunning with cottonwoods  
Virgin River

### **corn**

harvest moon  
a bulging corn crib  
releases it

## **dried weeds**

small weeds  
finding shadows  
for the night  
  
autumn  
down the length  
of tall grass  
  
dried weeds  
a nameless spider  
loses his shadow  
  
wild squaw grass  
wind twining the slenderness  
with shafts of sunlight  
  
withered grass  
a crow stretches his eye  
over hanging heads  
  
ridge top  
burnished grasses  
the monk's pate

## **driftwood**

"Dear Mom"  
her letter on a driftwood stick  
washed out to sea  
  
the way! the ocean  
arranges driftwood logs  
on a deserted beach  
  
driftwood  
bright with burning  
stars  
  
Sunday visitors  
admiring sculptured driftwood  
in the town square  
  
high tide  
the secret script of driftwood  
writing itself  
  
driftwood  
silver sea mists  
petrified

on the island  
no one goes to  
driftwood

## **fallen leaves**

falling  
down all sides of the mountain  
leaves

nude in the river  
a dirty old leaf  
touches my thigh

very drunk  
bright leaves  
fall into a heap

a gust of wind  
tossed back into the sky  
fallen leaves

in frozen mud  
the imprint of a long leaf  
lying somewhere else

on the ground  
leaves from one tall tree  
three inches deep

a swimming hole  
filled with the cold  
of fallen leaves

drawing boats  
on each leaf  
ribs in water

sound  
from the lizard's voiceless throat  
dry leaves

among fallen leaves  
a voice from the neighbor's yard  
scraping cement

autumn  
mountain climbers  
one leaf falls

## **garlic**

cloves of garlic  
arguing voices  
braided together

## **golden leaves**

old-timers  
finding golden autumn  
most lovely

blown leaves  
turning the sunlight  
from green to gold

riversong  
wind blown from autumn trees  
a stream of gold

autumn leaves  
along with with sunset  
a blaze of glory

weeping rock  
in autumn dried leaves  
gold

low autumn sun  
rolling over red rocks  
golden trees

late rains  
high in a river tree  
autumn gold leaves

## **heather**

nearness of hills  
undulating in the garden  
tufts of heather

patchwork quilt  
the rumpled beds  
of heather

## **huckleberry**

picking huckleberries  
afterwards the lessons  
in braille

huckleberries  
in her smile  
purple teeth



huckleberries  
in redwood shadows  
round and tart

mountain evening  
in a huckleberry sky  
the smell of pie

## **maples**

into autumn trees  
a rain-wet road winds  
sky colors

autumn hills  
a mountain of leaves  
down from maples

Vermont trip  
maples color the back roads  
of California

maples  
because they are admired most  
when their leaves are old

autumn colors  
in a redwood grove  
one maple afire

stone lantern  
dark before the flaming  
maple

## **mushrooms**

looking closely  
under the mushroom  
a desert landscape

woman in the woods  
touching mushrooms  
touching the base

## **onions**

teary halos  
round the moon  
onion rings

cutting an onion  
all the halos  
fall in the soup

**pampas grass plumes**

sun from the sea  
swept up the hills  
with pampas grass  
pampas grass plumes  
the color calls from the west  
autumn winds  
ribbons of moonlight  
glowing out of the earth  
pampas grass

**pear**

salt in a cellar  
at seven the mirror frame  
a mottled pear  
pears  
coloring themselves  
the days of summer

**persimmons**

persimmons  
their roundness softens  
rice stubble  
red-breasted birds  
among ripe persimmons  
hiding from the cold

**plums - fallen**

fallen plums  
at the end of the dog's nose  
cold and wet

**potato**

under dark earth  
dusty white potatoes  
the moon rises

**pumpkins**

grins  
harvested  
pumpkins

**redwoods**

a redwood falls  
the air of heaven  
laid low

giant forest  
approaching night  
in the redwoods

without a step  
giant redwoods going  
up the mountain

redwood roots  
the base thickens  
enters the earth

redwoods  
her inheritance  
with wind in it

running up and down  
the tallest redwood  
only my eye

volcanic ash  
three and a half million years old  
saving the redwoods

redwoods cathedral  
darkening the apse  
a circle of trees

in a tower  
redwoods still growing  
shelter

among these redwoods  
growing old seems  
rather honorable

**sage**

evening stretches  
over desert gold  
purple sage

Cathedral Canyon  
under Christ's picture  
wild sage

## **smoke trees**

fire red  
without its flower  
the smoke tree

smoke trees  
rising to sound  
in high caves

## **straw**

braided rice straw  
I find a photo  
of your lover

## **sycamores**

in back of the school  
yellow leaves of sycamore  
an acid burn

## **tarweeds**

tar weeds  
along the road  
covered with it

## **unripe fruit**

alone  
picking green tomatoes  
before the frost

sea oats  
bent by the north wind  
barely ripens

## **tree leaves fall**

strange land  
hanging in mid-air I am  
as leaves in the larch

leaves caught  
in cages of limbs  
escape

bent grass  
the shape of the apple tree  
in brown leaves

before falling  
dusty yellow leaves  
freshened by rain

leaves fall  
the air filled  
with church bells

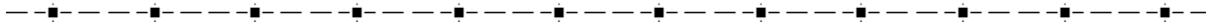
**vines**

fruitless vines  
going out of their way to repair  
the broken wicker chair

driftwood  
taking root in the river  
vines

**willow leaves fall**

autumn sun  
under willows  
a yellow leaf



**WINTER Moods**

**accepting the finite**

still standing  
where others lived  
abandoned cabin  
dusting the dresser  
a gown which shared  
our passion

death  
the star sailor  
home again

as dreams  
wood in an iron stove  
falls into ash

bubbles and branches  
ice moving  
the *I Ching* hexagram

tree roots  
bones of the dead  
leaving earth

a carved name  
smelling of bone marrow  
round and white

last days  
as thin as her skin  
loose on bones

people who die  
when the sea is full  
a law of foam

silence  
between old folks  
no longer breathing

tracing the blue  
veins on her breast  
winter

baby's ancient face  
wrinkled and sexless  
grandparents

touchstone  
the body arching the abyss  
death

antique  
mirroring on TV  
gone with the wind

## **boredom**

bored by winter  
wild surf waters knot  
sea grass

bored with winter  
a beach walk finds  
abandoned toys

another rainy day  
cleaning out of the toaster  
crumbs

silence  
around the old couple  
all their repeated words

silence  
faces at the party  
in a mirror

## **blocked**

after hours of conflict  
white waves no longer mount  
the black rock

blank book  
eyes filled with  
waves and wind

cold the room  
when the last of the ink  
has been written

## **complaints of being old**

without a lamp  
the moonlight turns  
my hair white

black ink  
the many poems dye  
my hair white

spilled wine  
finger prints on the glass  
shaking

young at heart  
still the roses fade  
on her nightie

a haircut  
less white  
on this old woman

winter road  
a sharp turn  
to the nursing home

gaining weight  
the world thicker  
with snow

winter leaving  
another blue vein  
on her leg

first snow  
I'm not one year older  
anymore  
gazing at her photograph  
the glass reflects  
an older face  
painted silver  
her wrinkles mar  
the smooth glass  
fifty years  
not remembering which  
toothbrush is his  
aging beauty  
truth lies on the mirror  
reversed

### **complaints of the cold**

winter so cold  
the sun leaves earlier  
each day  
midnight room  
rays of candlelight  
star-cold  
night cold  
surf's surge and boom  
in the bathtub  
lying in bed  
cold beside my sleep  
wide awake

### **delight in company**

a new winter friend  
up the year's steep sloping  
our flow of words

*- for Brent Partridge*

your poem  
the brief language  
of footsteps  
bird song  
under winter quilts  
bodies touching



together  
your tip glows  
as incense burns  
seaweed tied in knots  
ashore in winter storm  
we stick together  
necking  
the never-ending story  
movie forgotten  
telephone call  
your smile in a space  
you've never gone  
curved ink  
the warmth of your hand  
in the letters  
charmed  
a sunny day in winter  
a new you  
ice melting  
her hand touches  
his  
a glow  
the whole candle  
a flame  
angels  
dreams on your face  
my eyes  
appearing  
me in your dream  
you in my...  
uplifting  
light hearts  
magic  
this vow  
written so deep  
in dreams  
their eyes  
as a priest raises the wine  
blood rushes to her cheeks

## desire for company

evening alone  
only pine mountain  
my guest

northeaster storm  
yet feelings of longing  
dare the cross winds

quilt patterns  
the full moon's path  
of my desire

deep in winter  
no one comes to say  
*"Look, it's snowing."*

desert  
silence between us  
cold at night

waiting for you  
the dull swish  
of my raincoat

pin  
bowed with snow  
my longing

sleeping  
your image in dreams  
awakens

in my dream  
you touch me  
awake

it's black  
the road that takes  
you from me

waiting for guests  
the corner of the rug  
keeps turning up

something's coming  
in winter's high-water marks  
a dry rustle

earth frozen dry  
leaves behind my wide cape  
thus I search for you

wet chalk  
it's been such a long time  
since you've written  
grinding more ink  
the only thought that comes  
tender as the rain  
the chalk of her pelvis  
beacons for a child's soul  
now draws a line  
distant daughter  
hearing her coins drop  
into a telephone  
driftwood hermitage  
cold and loneliness  
take up the pen  
pages filled  
yet the stamp carries away  
unspoken words  
sleeping alone  
the cold side  
of the bed

### **desire for spring**

wild surf  
shaking the sunny beach  
our desire for spring  
salt crusts  
thin skin on a blown beach  
this itching  
dreams under the tent  
of the Burpee seed catalog  
winter gardens  
eaves dripping  
the candle flame  
flickers  
in the back of my brain  
a photo of your eyes  
watching my day  
blue on the postcard  
how far from the sea  
we both are

winter days  
a heart runs without panting  
to the beach

**depression**

nothing in nature  
truly black  
my moods

**discipline**

breathing  
underlining sentences  
in a book  
unknown keys in a box  
she takes a vow  
- no more love affairs

**estrangement**

after the argument  
the sound of your eyelashes  
brushing the pillow

winter cold  
the sound of ocean waves  
between us in bed

tears not shed  
at your leaving  
a sinus drip

silence  
between your words  
anger

silence  
after something falls  
a coming apart

silence  
between words  
stories

silence  
before the answer  
truth

a lover's quarrel  
the seamstress tries  
to patch things up

## fears

asleep  
surrounded by things  
that don't

hard to believe  
the someone touching the roof  
is only rain

panic  
as rain presses  
the window's dark sound

sun on a pine branch  
laughing shadow image  
a jackeral's face

ghost stories  
beyond the fire circle  
old/new noises

bear stories  
interrupted by the clatter  
of a garbage can

precipice  
the wind blows stronger  
my fear of falling

awakened  
by the hours of night  
an owl's dream

dreams  
turning on the light  
staying in the dark

nervous  
the whole house shakes  
in the wind

three minutes  
from here to eternity  
a phone call

flickering candle  
I'm not the only one  
who is scared

moving eyes  
objects reproduced  
a silence of mirrors

fog fear  
things so familiar  
they have no shadow  
from where come ideas  
now when frogs are still  
as cold stars  
last light  
glasses comes alive  
to watch out the night

### **feeling childlike**

at the airport  
in the town where I was born  
sinking into the mud  
by a dormant tree  
someone is singing  
as the scythe rusts

### **grief for the dead**

grief  
hours alone lift our feet  
from the knowing  
alive  
the dead go walking  
in my feet  
mind wandering  
dragging a heart-spun net  
in heavy seas  
a branch  
fallen to the roof  
downward and sloping  
dead  
and this morning  
he'll never see

### **helplessness**

sea spray climbs sheer cliff  
on the beach without legs  
a man in a wheelchair  
for her window  
Persian patterns of a rug  
wheelchair spokes

## isolation

winter moon  
alone it journeys northward  
brightens my doorstep

her face  
a fold in fabric  
smiles

palest butterflies  
trapped in paper cages  
letters in winter

she saw reflected  
in the dampness of his eyes  
herself alone

gray painted  
the level landscape  
life as a photo

a white room  
its walls drawing in  
the energy patterns

only the candle  
reads my poems  
wavers in the wind

in my chair  
listening to my music  
a stranger

silence so profound  
it takes the shape  
of your inner ear

isolated farms  
the white sky of snowdrifts  
outlining the cold

fog  
closing the brushwood gate  
silences ocean waves

leaving a book  
blind hands touch  
her own smile

window  
a filter of snow  
winter blind

stairs  
where no one speaks  
or rises  
alone again  
with the wind in the pines  
somewhere else  
gone -  
yet the space you left  
shines with light  
alone  
building a fire  
for company  
alone  
in the fire  
voices  
a strange land  
saying I love you  
again  
the wind dies  
the sound in one's own ears  
empty

**joy of living**

enjoying life  
for all the dead  
the yet unborn  
his face aglow  
the deaf child  
making signs  
*"Come see the sunset?"*  
the old woman too busy  
for endings

- for Caroline Sutherland

touching me  
during the ballet  
his left hand

**madness**

winter madness  
parachuting to earth  
pale blue creatures dangle



**motionless**

written in a dream  
all three lives  
now forgotten  
boxlike silence  
after the grandparents leave  
empty rooms

**pain**

a chalk drawing  
a piece of amber  
very near pain  
in my ear  
hurtful blood sounds  
of the sea  
your words  
the wind rubs the lake  
the wrong way

**peace**

another tranquillizer  
the cat begins to purr  
more r's in the room  
winter weaves  
a pile of pillows  
on a hard chair  
comforter  
buttoned to the bed  
a curled-up cat  
curving waves  
sleep carries away  
candlelight  
packing  
arms of the flannel shirt  
holding on to peace  
smoothed by seas  
a nearly round rock  
points homeward

home again  
raking in the Zen garden  
the oldest pattern  
driftwood hermitage  
a well-chewed stick  
writes in the sand

**poor**

too poor  
for a luxury house  
walking a deserted beach  
his crooked face  
peering into a puddle  
for a dropped penny  
silence  
marked down half-price  
the broken squeak toy

**release**

cloud-covered  
a departed soul  
sky-blue  
wind still  
Grandma's afternoon nap  
lasts forever  
the string cut  
in death feet go awry  
walking labyrinths  
no!  
the grave is not the end  
we remember too much

**remembering**

twilight  
finding in an old album  
dad is still young  
opening her closet  
secrets alive in the colors  
she has worn  
snow  
pictures of other lands  
other lovers

winter colors  
passing in sleep  
dream zones

measuring  
the box once again  
inside

underground  
the Celtic cauldron  
a ringing bell

winter dreams  
lingering on long arms  
summer warmed

I touch myself  
with lacquered nails  
as you once did

memories  
stored in our muscles  
an iron will

without a shadow  
on bright days  
the hand I know

## **rejection**

mailbox  
a frozen puddle overflows  
a rejection slip

bedtime story  
"*I love you.*" he said  
leaving to meet a lover

ebb tide  
anger and rejection  
sucked out to sea

filled by the sea  
the stony places  
of hurting

all my anger  
singing with the vacuum  
cleaner

rows of holes  
edging the stamp  
of your last letter

after our words  
on the lace tablecloth  
cut flowers

data processing  
her letters from New York  
in winter

## **restlessness**

gutted candle  
if only I too  
could sleep

sea wind  
searching me for something  
someone I once was

desiring freedom  
her photos no longer  
capture views

misty red daybreak  
newly lit fires in the kitchen  
wish to be on a train

## **solitude**

sweet cold  
incense in a winter room  
alone

treasure  
in a seashell serene colors  
a day alone

a roof of rain  
the sound inside  
solitude

silence  
after you've gone  
the widening world

silence  
when all alone  
a tunnel

a corner  
the shape of solitude  
chair and book

deaf child  
patterns of a Persian rug  
echoing

winter  
the hours melting  
into snowflakes

still awake  
on top of the comforter  
one feather

long damp beach  
winter solstice  
at ebb tide

walking in a fog  
a solitary person attended  
by angels

the shape of wind  
writing in dunes  
loneliness

alone in the house  
the flavor of peppermint  
cold on the tongue

a journey begins  
the way familiar  
to the door

frozen to his feet  
the length of a shadow  
wanting to sleep

alone in the room  
the gaudy television  
and me smiling

empty coffee cup  
the face looking at me  
gone

**tight shut**

*"origami"*  
she explained folding  
up the dollar bills

## uselessness

homeless man  
tied to his sleeping bag  
shoes going nowhere

art store sale  
the poet buys erasers  
at a discount

an old maid  
her favorite dancing dress  
yellows the attic

warm-breath wind  
words are helpless  
on parted lips

since birth unemployed  
the rich man  
and his navel

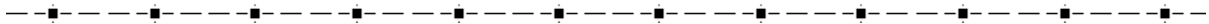
## weeping

darkness welling up  
cold waters of the sea  
a sob

songs of sorrow  
the harp string breaks  
the fall of tears

laughter  
after the argument  
sounds like sobs

a blue wave  
on the crest  
an eyelid closed



## WINTER Occasions

### baking for Christmas

cloves and nutmeg  
grandma separated yolks  
with one hand

first frost  
cutting out cookies  
with sugared tops

winter air  
warmed in the kitchen  
toasted bagels

winter dawn  
all the bright stars  
in cookie jars

## **California Christmas**

Mendocino hills  
green for Christmas  
new lambs

Mendocino Christmas  
on spring-green meadows  
red jersey cows

deserted beach  
couple in driftwood den  
trim a flotsam tree

Mendocino Christmas  
among snowy egrets  
flakes of pussy willows

Christmas carols  
in L.A. the air conditioner  
hums along

Christmas Eve  
Star of the West  
Point Arena Lighthouse  
sea side Christmas  
shore pines bright with mist  
at the lighthouse

## **celebrating the solstice**

a solstice moon  
13 women around a drum  
the old circles us

## **Christmas bazaar**

Christmas bazaar  
the carefully tied bow  
crooked

## **Christmas bells**

Christmas bells  
pouring excitement  
into the air

## **Christmas carols**

in the old folks' home  
practicing Christmas carols  
children again

howling sea winds  
Christmas carols  
sung by the local choir

## **Christmas Day**

Christmas  
a sleigh draws homeward  
all my thoughts

coming ashore  
on Christmas Day  
pure white waves

Christmas  
in the driest places  
desert holly

Christmas day  
a waiting at the roots  
of pine trees

Christmas dinner  
still warm  
two crows by roadkill

covered with ice  
the picnic table  
on Christmas Day

## **Christmas Eve**

Christmas Eve  
a life time of habits  
not sleeping

Christmas Eve  
out of the sea storm  
a lighthouse



Christmas Eve  
sea rocks unmoved  
by the storm

Christmas Eve  
out of the dark  
hail

Christmas Eve  
hail  
"Peace on Earth"

Christmas Eve  
the batteries left on  
all night

Christmas Eve  
only star  
a foghorn

### **Christmas lights**

holiday ridge  
points of candlelight and  
stars

Christmas lights  
shining in the sun  
their unbelief

Christmas lights  
in the thick pine forest  
a rising moon

### **Christmas play**

Christmas play  
afterwards all the stars  
on the school bus

### **Christmas shopping**

Christmas gifts  
what to buy  
for someone dying

### **Christmas tree**

cash crop  
Jesuit priests peddle  
Christmas trees

Christmas tree out  
cleaning the room  
for spring  
in the corner  
where the Christmas tree glowered  
crooked chair shadows

### **sending/receiving cards**

Christmas day  
near-by a squirrel poses  
on a greeting card  
snow falling  
the long awaited letter  
on its way  
letters written  
with a thick nubbed pen  
storm trees

### **trimming the tree**

Christmas ornaments  
bought that year  
we didn't come home  
Christmas ornaments  
last year's dust  
wrapped in tissue

### **Valentine's Day**

unwrapping  
Valentine gifts  
naked  
brand new  
Valentine's gift  
herpes  
married in the cold month  
sea foam freezes  
on the rocks

### **white Christmas**

my white Christmas  
only under the branches  
of the snowberry bush

## Winter Solstice

winter solstice  
the white night alone  
with rolling surf

winter solstice  
the sun in the south  
with old folks

south sun  
December's horizon  
rolled in fog

winter solstice  
the sun at its own  
birthday party

for winter solstice  
bumpy as an orange  
moonset

winter solstice  
warmth of friends  
return the sun

winter solstice  
greeting like souls  
the sun returns

winter solstice  
a white eve alone  
with a wild surf

heavy clouds  
winter solstice brightens  
lightning

after the solstice  
cleaning the house  
trimming wicks

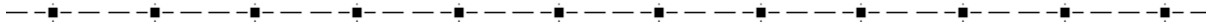
winter solstice  
finding a new point  
for acupressure

winter solstice  
so low in the trees its return  
just stays

## **wrapping gifts**

Christmas gifts  
wrapped in white tissue  
mist-covered mountains

wrapping gifts  
a whale swims by  
covered with barnacles



## **WINTER Celestial**

### **air**

frost sharp air  
cut into pieces by sunshine  
sparkling on snow

winter air  
thick as the branches  
bare

### **beginning of winter**

winter begins  
leaving for me alone  
autumn

giving away  
autumn kittens  
winter begins

### **clouds**

gathering clouds  
heavy and dark with holding  
unfallen flakes

low clouds  
pressing out of the sea  
huge waves

purple lava peaks  
rain clouds hovering over  
desert sunset

purple peaks  
with fire-rimmed steam  
sunset clouds

winter clouds  
summer dreams  
turning to ice

night light  
thin cloud cover guides me  
across the room

dark on the sea  
a rain cloud brushes  
the tops of waves

cloud dark  
joined to sea dark  
by falling rain

roaring down the beach  
at the height of winter waves  
mist clouds

## **cold**

a curtain pulled back  
by a south wind  
cold

smooth snow  
deeper than garden stones  
the cold

beach cold  
twisting driftwood  
into a windbreak

beach cold  
freezing a driftwood  
windbreak

winter waves  
rolling into sun-warmed sand  
driftwood

waves  
rolling into frosted sand  
winter

winter cold  
finding on the beach  
an open knife

**cosmos**

empty hands  
our holes  
in the cosmos  
bell-tone circles  
as path to meditation  
across galaxies

**dawn**

winter dawn  
sounds of blowing snow  
sleeping birds  
sea dawn  
the journey of snowflakes  
to a parking lot  
clouds resting  
on top of snowdrifts  
winter dawn  
daybreak  
glass shatters  
the dream  
just at daybreak  
a drift of snow balanced  
on each branch  
winter dawn comes  
the sound of blowing snow  
sleeping birds  
falling out  
at the crack of dawn  
snowflakes  
between mountains  
and heavy snow clouds  
daybreak  
frozen sun  
dawn's clouds  
faint with pink

**day in winter**

the skin of our teeth  
as thick as a life  
a winter day

**daybreak**

daybreak  
light drifting down  
in snowflakes

**days - shorter**

snow by candlelight  
brightens the turn  
to shorter days  
for tall folks  
the hours of light  
shortened

**departing year**

slow rains  
as if leaves were falling  
at winter's end

**first light**

first light  
nudging frozen clouds  
snow flakes  
star gazing  
all the familiar things  
in morning's light  
milky dawn  
the world without color  
takes form  
spots of blue  
varying the light to fit  
tracks in the snow  
morning light  
a couple on the cliff  
as spirits of a new day  
just now  
the moon set  
and you sleep

**fog**

timeless  
in the fog  
someone walking

foggy night  
farmlights of a lonely coast  
separate

wrapped in fog  
colors of the coast  
quiet

fog  
edge of the cliff  
edge of the world

ocean fog  
in the broken sign  
"open"

fog  
the days go by  
without hours

evening fog  
in town with dampened  
spirits

mist  
broken from night waves  
sleep

asleep  
fog extends  
the morning

foggy morning  
coming in the door  
weak sunlight

thick swirling fog  
not seeing anything  
just a wing shape

new flannel gown  
wrapped for the night  
in thick sea fog

fog  
river mouth  
bridged

worldly view  
obscured by sea fog  
angel wings



fingers  
into valleys  
sea fog  
warming  
thick fog  
a fire  
out of fog  
fog colors  
in waves  
into the cove  
fog pours  
more secrets  
cutting out the world  
sounds of the sea  
fog  
erasing the land  
the ocean sends a blanket  
of fog  
neighbors  
leaving as  
fog

## **frost**

frost  
dropping a basket  
with 12 eggs  
lace edges  
the fallen leaf  
white with frost  
granite patterns  
fallen to leaves  
frosted rust  
flowers blooming  
on dry sand and pond  
frost

## **ice**

water over ice  
floating among clotted leaves  
a face expiring

surf sounds  
covering the winter porch  
a shell of ice

clouds  
still in the mountain brook  
ice

## **hail**

before they melt  
hailstones hiding themselves  
in the gravel path

spindrift  
falling on the hills  
hail

veiled moon  
fragments loosen  
hail

silence  
after the hailstorm  
cold

## **moon**

jingling coins  
deep in his pocket  
the moon slides behind clouds

cold  
the winter moon with you  
at the window

full-moon sky  
cold high winds blow  
from a bright hole

waning moon watches  
a pie put out to cool  
eaten away

dark night winds  
blowing over the seas  
the moon sinks in

the full moon  
slips into its silver path  
sea sleep

melting into the sea  
the full moon  
leaves a candle bright  
plunging right in  
the moon and I  
cold night seas  
time  
on a moonless night  
a dog barking  
released  
from snow-capped peaks  
a full moon  
cold winds  
rounding snow-capped peaks  
a full moon  
from the full moon  
cold summit winds  
snow-clad  
touching eyes  
the whiteness of snow  
a full moon  
winter moon  
directing the winds  
around corners  
winter's new moon  
the cutting cold  
shines tonight  
high on a cliff  
the quarter moon finds  
dark houses  
wolf moon  
slipping into northern pines  
winter

## **moonlight**

winter moonlight  
the crystal prism turns  
with the tides

surf and sea  
white with the sound  
of moonlight

**morning**

mornings  
the winter moon leaves  
a frosted path

**night**

cold night  
I feed brownies  
to aching bones  
knocking  
cold comes in unmasked  
the night house

winter nights  
enough warmth  
to answer letters

night  
breaking waves  
rocks

silence  
in a dark night  
an ill-made shape

night the animal  
that keeps death in a little space  
prowls to the left

night  
overtaking the blackness  
of molten rock

**night - the longest**

longest night  
full moon whitens  
pure snow

**Northern Lights**

Northern Lights  
a white robed choir sings  
to radio static

**rain**

rattle of rain  
across the valley  
into my hand

downpour  
a basket on the porch  
fills with rain

raindrops  
inside  
heartbeats

after dinner  
so full of soup  
it begins to rain

**sky**

to the rocks  
the sky falling free  
a bluish glow

pale skies  
winter comes from afar  
a white foam wave

**smoke**

blind smoke  
touching the sky  
with one finger

wood smoke  
pressed to the porch  
by low clouds

**snowflakes**

life  
of a snowflake  
falling

Mono Lake  
on salt-crystal pillars  
snowflakes

**snowing**

silence  
snowing  
light

satisfied  
with toast and cocoa  
it stops snowing

porch light  
brilliant with the points  
of falling snow

night light  
snow falls  
on the porch

rain  
silent  
snow

the clock ticks  
back and forth  
snowfall

first snow  
deep as a fallen leaf  
upright

mountain deep  
a sky covering with snow  
our way home

blue cold snow  
warmed by fallen leaves  
russet brown

ticking  
each hour  
snow deepens

early snow  
even in the hole is white  
overturned outhouse

## **snow - blowing**

the world wobbles  
the weight of snow  
drifting

*no trespassing*  
yet thru the split rail fence  
snow goes

to touch stars  
her outstretched hand  
fills with snowflakes

snowdrifts  
flinging moth wings  
across the land

**snow - melting**

melting snow  
your tracks leaving  
a dampness

melting snow  
the white nets hold down  
springing grasses

it melts  
last light of afternoon  
rest of the snow

cap of snow  
on the sun-warmed rock  
shrinking to fit

**snow - new**

new-fallen snow  
scraped by wing tips  
leaving the earth

new-fallen snow  
screams of children  
biting cold

**snow - predicted**

snow predicted  
a jar of old buttons  
in the top drawer

**snow - viewing**

giant snowflakes  
bring to the window  
adult faces

stars

crystals  
filling the night window  
with stars

glistening cold  
the stars bend down  
a few flakes

snow taste  
the cold fire  
of frozen stars

high winds  
stars moved about  
by swaying tress

cold stars  
dropping into the ocean  
snowflakes

winter stars  
pea soup doesn't taste  
without salt

the first stars  
a farmhouse  
and a buoy

before one star  
beams from the lighthouse  
search the sky

into the sky  
notes from the harp  
light stars

earth lines  
starpaths light  
the fluid landscape

in our blood  
bright crystals  
star journeys

waves  
in and out of the sea  
stars

## **storm**

curving the sky  
storm clouds arch  
into the bay

the winter tempest  
visiting the neighbors  
how still it is



winter storms  
passing the rain rattle  
drums on the roof

sea storm  
blue black clouds sink  
salt-water air

after the snowstorm  
new paths to old places  
the skies clear

fire on water  
reflecting the sun  
after a storm

between winter storms  
a fisherman come to bring  
poems and primroses

after the snowstorm  
only wood smoke drifts  
into the clearing

snow storm  
brings white skies  
down to earth

this blizzard  
blowing about  
one small candle

snow storm  
children hanging in a tree  
paper flowers

storm winds  
in all things that don't die  
this quivering

winter storm  
tearing the waves white  
low-scudding clouds

storm winds  
breeze through a cracked window  
our nightly breath

storm waves  
winter tides wave  
to mountain tops

storm clouds  
forcing the sun to set  
far out to sea

night storm  
at sea dark things  
move closer

winter storms  
wrapping around the house  
the ocean's roar

storm sails  
cloud evening skies  
eyes

## **sun in winter**

winter sun  
coming in late  
for breakfast

low winter sun  
covered with one wave  
leaping on the beach

low winter sun  
walking the length  
of the rock's shadow

mid-winter's day  
the sun and moon  
combine warmth

mid-winter's sun  
breaking the ice  
in a rain barrel

## **sunset**

sunset  
stumbling over rocks  
shadows

sunset  
all the shadows  
home

sunset  
leaving to the wind  
bare rocks

sunsets  
blue clouds as land  
into pink seas

sunset  
all the shadows  
going home

night's warmth  
sucked into the sea  
a sinking sun

ocean sunset  
staying by the window  
'till the color sinks

## **twilight**

winter twilight  
gathers in her lap  
white folded hands

blue desert wind  
pushes the hills' shadow  
the long walk home

ocean  
twilight as final  
as the last one

alkali flats  
in the twilight of evening  
snow white

## **wind**

the rain-filled wind  
blowing away the word  
a damp newspaper

wind  
being massaged  
by wind chimes

from far at sea  
waves bring without wind  
that sound

winter wind  
a red flag waves  
to the whiteness

rock music  
the beach house shaken  
by howling winds

wind  
finding dark places in cliffs  
for the night

sea winds  
not believing in  
the silence

wind  
from the mouth of something  
dark

a blanket of wind  
wrapping around the house  
ocean cold

sea foam  
pulling storm winds  
across the beach

night winds  
touching crested waves  
with frost

wind tears  
smoke from the chimney  
snow flakes

Aeolian harps  
rigged for sailing  
snowfields

tundra wind  
in an ancient poet's ears  
followers' footprints

snow  
lighting the way  
of the wind

across the sea  
wind blows to me  
stranger's snow

riding white roads  
before dawn without a steed  
winds of winter

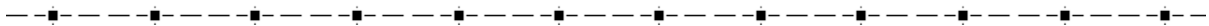
crossing the bay  
from island to island  
winter winds  
unseen wind  
water touching water  
with its roar  
wind  
tangling bare air  
black trees  
homeward  
wind pushes us across  
evening shadows  
winter wind  
the smell of french fries  
and cold grease

**winter**

circus time over  
now it begins to be  
winter

leaves gold shine  
holding bright  
the wall of winter

scrape of a spoon  
in the empty bowl  
end of winter



## **WINTER Terrestrial**

**beach**

stony sand  
coming and going  
winter waves

a crust of snow  
seaweed flung high  
by the night tide

storm-tossed waves  
edged with foam  
breaking sand  
people who die  
when the sea is full  
a row of foam  
beach pebble  
round with its years  
in the making  
waves  
break and foam  
yet stars  
in and out  
of the driftwood lair  
gull tracks  
beach-blown  
rainbows in sea foam  
sand crystals  
a winter's day  
suddenly the sun  
at a beach picnic  
beach laid dark  
by low tide now covered  
with night waters  
high on the hill  
the earth smiles  
a bay beach  
February sun  
lying on the nude beach  
fully clothed  
a stick  
poking holes in sand  
the beach *I Ching*  
the swish of surf  
falling snowflakes  
have a sound  
winter beach  
in thin white clouds  
thoughts of snow

**brooks**

deep in winter  
the babbling brook  
white as stone

bubbles in ice  
holding till spring  
the voice of the brook

the mountain brook  
still with listening  
winter winds

**canyon**

winter warm  
red canyon walls hold  
the low sun

**cave**

night mirror  
the mouth of a cave  
open - pale

**cliffs**

frozen cliffs  
swept by lighthouse beams  
soft in the dark

giant waves  
sea cliff rocks  
summer sea secure

high tossed mists  
warmed in morning sun  
above winter cliffs

after the storm  
sandstone cliffs relax pebbles  
into the beach

high tide  
brings storm waves  
to cliff dwellers

sea spray  
the cliff laced  
by crystal

north wind  
reducing the cliffs  
by a splashed wave

night wheels  
the rolling surf  
crashes on cliffs

hill dwellers  
winters stormy seas  
carving the coast

**crater**

crater rim  
white with snow  
our lips cold

**crystal**

crystal veins  
in the darkest rock  
stars

rocks  
crystallize  
sand

living rock  
in veins of crystal  
waterfalls

**desert**

winter desert  
forgotten the heat  
of cinder paths

desert vista  
in silence between us  
the little heat

windows  
in the cinder rocks  
wind ohs

**dike**

the cutting cold  
pulled up on a dike  
a silver canoe

**ditches**

winter leaves  
in the ditch a glove  
without a hand



## **dunes**

wind  
song that curves  
dunes

## **fields**

a field of snow  
fenced in by fields  
of snow

wind-filled snow  
now brushing the eaves  
now sweeping fields

snowy fields  
in a row of winter trees  
veins of leaves

the winter moon  
diminishing into snowflakes  
open fields

fields of bones  
beyond the cemetery  
white with snow

dark fences  
encircling the snowy field  
eyelashes blink

snow and moonlight  
fill the open field  
sky high

snow fields  
half-melted  
a quarter moon

her long thumbnail  
fallow fields lie empty  
with snow

stitching together  
now-covered fields  
blackbird wings

warming  
the corner of winter's field  
an unattended fire

nuns  
all old women who work  
fenced in fields

**forests**

a whiteness  
in and out of the woods  
as flakes

**frozen ground**

frost  
on the granite  
gravel  
light spilling  
into a waterfall  
frost

**gardens**

tiny gardens  
huddle together in winter  
on the windowsills

**glacier**

glacier gorge  
after the snowstorm  
empty with light  
nap time  
warm on a granite wall  
glacier marks  
glacier  
rounding rocks  
now a woman  
under low clouds  
evening sky glacier  
cools the wind  
a journey ends  
where the glacier melted  
a field of stones

**granite**

granite  
without shadow edges  
ice on black water

## **hills**

clouds  
leaving their shapes  
in hills

winter rain  
brushing wild hills  
a faint green

low winter light  
hoarded in red hills  
at sunset

## **hot springs**

crystal waters  
warmed with the scent  
of earth

ancient earth  
tiredness of my old body  
in hot springs

winter stars  
warmed in mineral baths  
foggy

dreams  
from hot mineral baths  
a bright lava flow

winter night  
joining us in the bath  
foggy stars

## **ice**

silence  
ice all by itself  
squeaks

crystals  
designed in dark cold time  
ice cubes

out of a rock  
water flows with history  
rimmed with frost

## **icicles**

icicles hang  
yet above my face  
her naked breasts

## islands

windless days  
surrounding the islands  
in deep sleep  
winter morning surf  
brings to cold sand  
a ruddy glow  
tapered  
the knife lies in the river  
an island untouched

## jasper

red and black  
jasper and obsidian  
from a volcano  
jasper  
volcanic gift of healing  
from earth fires  
fire spirits  
gift  
jasper nuggets

## lake

a glare of ice  
to walk without a path  
the frozen lake  
snowstorm  
dropping white skies  
into a lake  
the lake thawing  
an image of a woman  
awaking  
tufa towers  
reflecting in the lake  
volcanoes

- *Mono Lake*

sunrise  
burning in the salt sea  
a pillar of light

fire spirits  
underwater architecture  
comes to light

## **mountain**

winter-bound peaks  
the snow not melted  
by our gazing

snow-capped peaks  
sun setting fires  
with fog-smoke

out of snow  
sun sets mountain peaks  
a fire

snow-covered  
sweet water mountains  
rising upward

mountains  
folding in the sky  
blue snow shadows

north wind  
guardian of the narrows  
bares the trees

without a guardrail  
the tumble-down place  
where cars go over

faults  
folding mountains  
unfolding history

nothing to wear  
just clouds  
covering mountains

as in the sky  
mountain snowfields  
trackless

## **mountain cabin**

mountain cabin  
a wedge of winter sunlight  
pushes in the doorway

## mountain passes

closing the mind  
the sameness of gates  
mountain passes

## ocean

snow blowing  
far from the ocean an aching ear  
stuffed with cotton

arctic snowfields blow  
across sky-blue waters  
white caps

where the sun sank  
a ship sails cool  
on western waters

winter sun  
waving the ocean's brightness  
a blue-white flag

winter white  
on the ocean's block of blue  
melting crust of foam

storm-washed sea  
each flat wave  
a dirty gray

pounding the beach  
with storm wild waves  
the foghorn

storm waves  
falling from angel shoulders  
sea spray

all night  
the sound of waves  
purple silk

cold winter ocean  
warms spindrift  
in the sun

winter ocean tossing  
spindrift over the cliff  
into morning sun

curving waves  
sleep carries us away  
all night

wave songs  
pound upon eyelids  
sleep

dark blue lines  
in a salt sea  
dreams

sea ironed black  
stars hang at the edge  
of winter

ocean waves  
and things that sleep  
so words can hold them still

kneading dough  
silent in the window  
wild surf rolls

sea winds  
a rush and noise  
learned from water

silence  
between crashing waves  
white foam

a flow of snow  
returning the wave  
foaming surf

winter waves  
playing tag  
with old folks

winter waves  
crowning plumes  
of white spray

a sunny corner  
all the winter winds  
in white waves

seaside town  
emptied at night  
by a roaring tide

midnight air  
pounded seas  
a throbbing  
tearing night  
wild surf rolls in  
morning light  
wild surf  
on glistening wings  
harp rhythms  
wild surf  
sea and earth  
singing air  
snowfields  
whiteness at high tide  
the surf  
snowy hill  
stretches the unbroken field  
curving it just a bit  
wild seas  
footprints fill  
with foam  
listening to sea waves  
the cup of tea also  
tastes cold  
surface tension  
the smooth ocean  
a sacred mirror

**obsidian**

snow-covered peaks  
covered with blackness  
obsidian fields

**peninsula**

a peninsula  
the gulls carry their name  
from sea to sea  
land's end  
pushing into the sea  
white water



## pond

the old pond  
how snugly it fits  
new ice

winter millpond  
the moon cuts wavelets  
in silver slivers

in time  
oars dipping  
into winter

## rivers

upstream  
the solstice moon has frozen  
the river

sun shine  
in a drop of melting snow  
the river black

rocks frozen in snow  
a lonely woman stares  
at the river's cold

snow-capped rocks  
above the river's current  
nimbus

surf tongue  
a whispering roar  
in the river's mouth

each day anew  
river's mouth finds  
the sea

river mouth  
rushing to the sea  
curves a smile

suspension bridge  
so narrow my shadow  
waits on shore

his days measured  
a river flowing  
across the sky

mouth open  
dangerous as the river ends  
in ocean waves

**snow**

late leaves  
skidding over frozen snow  
yesterday's news

bright earth  
filling to the ceiling  
snow-cold

cushions  
on summer chairs  
snow

bright aura  
everything covered  
with snow

mountain air  
crystallized by snow  
and granite

snow-capped peaks  
on the desert floor white clouds  
of alkali dust

windowsill  
piled with snow  
far ridges

almost a mountain  
the hills grow up  
with snowdrifts

dark place in snow  
the bag of coal  
now white itself

cloud shadows  
the sky's footprints  
on mountain snow

cold night  
stacks on the woodpile  
a cover of snow

## **snowbound**

snowbound  
the lake also  
disappeared

snowbound  
fire spirits  
in a salt lake

snowbound  
all the colors  
quiet

## **stones**

heart of an agate  
slivered with polishing  
turns to the sun

a quartz crystal  
light years ago  
keeping time

facing the sea  
weathered rocks of age  
wrinkled and gray

painted stones  
tree shadows  
not moving

bubbling out of the sea  
rock burned black  
a million years ago

soft round mounting  
a rock the sea leaves  
it jagged

curved straight  
a sea rock spreads  
white spray wing

silence of stones  
songs sung low  
and slow

unheated seas  
dark rocks dissolve  
into evening mists

high tide  
water covers rocks  
as sleep

waves breaking  
the ragged shore  
into sea rocks

white  
alone on a dark rock  
with small waves

crystal clear  
the rainbow colors  
of his shining

low winter sun  
lights a fire  
in a stone circle

wind echo  
in round rocks  
crystals

desert wash  
every sized crystal  
clear light

trees  
scattered in the soil  
petrified

massive rocks  
wind sounds pushed  
into the pines

shoreline rocks  
loosening the wind's roar  
from each wave

water dripping  
stories etched on rock  
howl in the wind

dragon jaw  
biting winds claw  
off-shore rocks

sun warms rock  
winter storms swept bare  
of frost flowers

rocks  
record players  
of time

old society dame  
a lifetime of faces  
studies the rock

long shadows  
stumbling over rocks  
on the way home

Death Valley  
oldest rocks on earth  
writer's block

pushing sunshine  
into dark seas  
slanted rocks

ancient river  
draws a white line  
in the tiniest stone

winter carves  
in mountain rocks  
deep shadow

centuries of stone  
your voice echoes  
forever

resting on a rock  
by a snow-melt stream  
winter-cold butt

low tide rocks  
bubbling out of the sea  
still lava

## **valley**

fog  
in the valleys  
cold hands

white winds  
from snowy peaks  
cover the valley

wide desert valleys  
push apart peaks  
soul bodies

winter shadow  
a low mountain fills  
the wide valley

**streets/roads**

icy streets  
today of all days  
his first steps  
half-frozen ice  
how the idiot fixes  
his wayward feet  
roads  
in winter  
stream

**volcano**

snow-clouds  
the cooled fires  
of volcanoes  
passive  
an extinct volcano  
covered with snow  
fire spirits  
making mountains  
out of volcanoes  
volcanoes  
covered with pure clouds  
silent fires  
jagged peaks  
swirling their fires  
into clouds  
clouds  
swirling their fires  
into jagged peaks

**walls**

a brick wall  
splintered by frost  
back to the earth  
orange winter  
windows beginning to dream  
night fears awaken

riverstone house  
water pushes snow drifts  
into walls

river-rock house  
at night the walls  
a babbling brook

city walls  
of no one  
sunless dark

## **waterfalls**

noises  
the mossy parts  
of a waterfall

snow pond  
Yosemite spring time  
a waterfaling

falling  
into water smoke  
snow melt

rocks bending  
sound paths  
of the waterfall

from living rock  
the purity of snow  
waterise

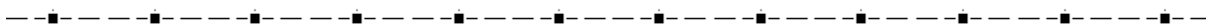
sunshine  
pouring down the canyon wall  
snow-melt waterfall

upward spiral  
wind pushed the waterfall  
into a cloud

sunshine  
carves the rock  
snow-melt waterfall

## **well**

moving up  
in the falling rain  
our empty well



## **WINTER Livelihood**

### **bean soup**

cold rain  
falling into bean soup  
chopped onions  
soup cooking  
in the wood stove too  
rain on the roof  
out shouting  
rain on the roof  
bean soup

### **candles**

candlelight  
opening  
shiny doorknobs  
not seeing  
the candle shorter  
the room brighter  
red candles  
above a rusty wood stove  
leaking light  
candles  
into the hot tub  
firepath  
dimmed lights  
dried flowers imbedded in  
candles

### **cheese making**

first daylight  
a bowl of whey  
pressed from cheese

### **children visiting**

wrinkled hand  
fists of another grandchild  
clasp mine



open mouthed  
amazement seeing grandma  
clean her glasses

winter  
folded in grandma's linen closet  
pure white

unpainted house  
a crystal in the window  
coloring the walls

### **chores in winter**

after dark  
the machine washing  
white clothes

winter's cold  
dishwater hardens  
white grease

dusting  
mismatched socks  
in hand

silence  
after the dishes are washed  
a smell of cabbage

unfinished poem  
because it stinks  
dumping the trash

holes of winter  
unseasonable snow  
a mended gown

hard flash of light  
stabbed by a knife  
falling into water

gray dust  
the fluffy cat brings something  
from under the bed

### **death in winter**

knitting  
death watch  
a dropped stitch

freezing rain  
another breakdown  
in the dialysis machine

death watch  
one thread  
unravels

sobs  
the oxygen tank  
hisses

death morning  
snow flakes falling  
each alone

windshield wiper  
not brushing away  
the tears

the child that dies  
before its shape is clear  
in heartbeat waters

given in marriage  
and with a child  
she dies

sucking bones  
the toothless old man  
buried by a crooked pine

## **drinking tea**

boiling water  
to make tea  
dulcimer tune

morning light  
the taste of snow  
in thin tea

heart-shadow  
handle of a cup  
of herb tea

clear tea  
holding a calm  
in the storm

out of the cup  
cold air giving steam  
a shape

## **farmers in winter**

a farmer  
how he walks through his meadow  
when his boots leak  
weathered wood  
the old guy leans  
on the fence

## **fishermen in winter**

for ships at sea  
the sun also  
sinks  
arthritic knuckles  
winter fogs untangle  
knotted fish nets  
a thin man  
opening a jackknife  
leans on his elbow

## **getting fat**

garage sale  
buying the skinny lady's  
old wide pants  
foiling heredity  
mother and daughter  
diets

## **going to church**

stone church  
the breath of statues  
frosty tonight  
mountain villagers  
a stony church with candles  
warming each other  
cry of wind  
in chapel walls  
chanting mouths  
heavy chapel stones  
weighed down with bass chanting  
a cold apse  
Gregorian chants  
sunlight on stone walls  
rounding warmth

monastery  
power lines on  
crosses  
cathedral  
the many visitors  
polished rocks  
crystal glass  
monastery bell fills  
it with wine  
rows of crosses  
a monastery bell tolls  
above the vineyard  
a sermon  
the deep breathing  
of a sleeping child  
her scarf  
covering the sleeping face  
a dream soul net

## **handcrafts**

gnarled knuckles  
knotting rag rugs  
for a hope chest  
dulcimer chords  
patterns of a quilt  
fitting together  
spittle strings  
collecting threads  
from the new quilt  
sunrise  
string catches colors  
on the loom  
a shuttle hums  
between strings  
a deep twang  
crippled fingers  
the forgotten way  
of making paper  
winter drizzle  
crocheting a blue rug  
at the door

knitting  
to farmlands  
bare trees  
weaving a blanket  
this wood stove perfumes  
carded wool

knitting  
to close out the gossip  
a stitch snarls  
a chalk drawing  
a piece of amber  
very near pain  
stained hands  
a rag rug crocheting  
winter's evening

deep in winter  
the lady lives alone  
unfinished baskets  
foggy morning finds  
a torn book of poems  
the patchwork quilt  
black buttons  
under broken baskets  
bugs stare

## **hunting**

before the fire  
deer hunters discussing  
cars

old hunter  
confined to setting traps  
for mice

snapped!  
caught in a mousetrap  
a night's sleep

## **ice skating**

a broken mirror  
now the ice breaker pushes apart  
the joys of skating

## **making candy**

in the 'fridge  
the dark chocolate  
with the door closed

## **making snowmen**

the young boy  
refusing to build  
a snowman

## **meditation**

incense burns  
inside a moon shell  
whorls of smoke  
knots in wood  
temple walls echo  
a gong  
monks slow song  
of evening chanting  
stomachs growl  
tantra monk chants  
the mouth nearest mine  
breathing  
monks chanting  
the crooked pine  
wind straightened  
sun moves  
over rough-sawn planks  
monks chanting  
one bowl koan  
Zen students laugh  
and lap it up  
channels  
the balance of *chi*  
in two hands  
earth-loosened  
ascending heaven  
monks chant  
earth heavy  
chanted prayers ascend  
into high humming

lessons  
stars during the day  
still there

alone in the forest  
closing one gate  
opening the other

tapered prayer  
a lone pine points  
into heaven

Zen garden  
patterns raked by falling rain  
still the dust

stiff from sitting  
how welcome the fire  
of crooked branches

Zen student  
asked the way home  
shows his *koan*

*om*  
the fog horn  
hums along

## **music listening**

a flute concert  
the cat breathes gently  
through her whiskers

soprano solo  
measures the cathedral's  
highest praise

organ recital  
loosened soot falls free  
in the stove pipe

piano concert  
by firelight the flickering  
of notes

the oiliness  
of earache medicine  
organ music

organ recital  
the cherub over the altar  
sways in time

organ music  
the school principal's words  
*"go to my office"*

church organ music  
wondering if my tampon  
will hold it all

high tenor voice  
carries into a vaulted arch  
my tears

harp notes  
sewing the hem  
of winter's robe

madrigals  
humming in pine walls  
winds

soprano's aria  
a cavity in my tooth  
fills with pain

flute concert  
salt water crashes  
into silver spray

flute concert  
blown from foggy skies  
silver drizzle

madrigals  
from the 15th century  
rain continues

## **music making**

Christmas carols  
the Buddhist convert  
hums along

in notes from the harp  
stringing together  
evening hours

singing old songs  
the surf rolls on the sand  
its roar

winter room  
warmth of a string vibrating  
old songs



desert wind  
composing a flute concert  
in pine wood

deep at sea  
wind in the harp  
of whale songs

with the harp  
the whole house hums  
a windsong

closing his eyes  
his horn finds  
the blue note

plucking the strings  
frozen flakes fall  
far from the harp

imported  
a German zither  
snowflakes

Saturday night  
in the widow's cabin  
dulcimer music

rented house  
harp hollow  
cold

lamplight  
the room seems empty  
without zither notes

## **outdoor plumbing**

going out to pee  
he gives it a shake  
hurries back to the fire

outdoor plumbing  
with a shower of snowflakes  
soap bubbles

winter nights  
thawing pipes  
taking a leak

stars watching  
me shower  
with snowflakes

starlight  
all around the shower  
snowflakes

clean feet  
on redwood steps  
a pad of snow

freezing  
an outdoor shower  
snow-caked soap

more white  
in washed-wet hair  
snowflakes

## **power outage**

winter storms  
dinner by candlelight  
every night

computer software  
reading the new manual  
by candlelight

lamplight  
how small the room  
without power

cheese sandwiches  
warmed on the wood stove  
where soup cooks

yuppie neighbors  
with central heating  
around the cookstove

without power  
the snap sound working  
in a mousetrap

haiku poets too  
chop wood carry water  
when the power's off

## **religion**

dog-eared  
*Zen Flesh Zen Bones*  
corners turned down

after the fasting  
the bitterness of salt  
speaking again  
castle of light  
a spiritual pattern  
on the path

## **reading**

book of poems  
on each page fingerprints  
of a soul  
breathing  
underlining sentences  
in a book  
down from bookshelves  
ancient myths come to life  
thick ocean fog  
paperback romances  
the eyes of a woman reading  
her own story  
finger of darkness  
a forest of black shapes  
closes my book

## **remembering ancestors**

whispers  
my ancestors turning to larva  
under the mounds  
smoked glasses  
in oak wood frames  
faces  
grandfather nods  
portraits on a farmhouse wall  
in a wobbly mirror  
in a flash  
not letting him die  
a photograph

## **retirement**

rest home  
knitting potholders for the kitchen  
she no longer has

laughter  
in nursing home halls  
peeling from the molding  
old folks home  
the *no trespassing* sign  
faded

### **sewing**

gentle holes  
in clean underwear filling  
the sewing basket

### **skiing**

snow and sunshine  
pulling cars with skis  
into mountains  
bouncing from snow  
so young the sunshine  
on childish cheeks  
streaks of sunshine  
sliding down the north slope  
laughing children

### **sledding**

putting away the sled  
the frayed rope drags  
in the mud

### **snowbound**

snowbound  
digging out  
haiku

### **snow pictures**

catching a chill  
the failure to photograph  
snowflakes

### **snow shoveling**

shoveling her snow  
the parakeet hops behind  
glass frost flowers  
a chapped lip sound  
the neighbor shoveling snow  
on a brick path

an old woman  
the harshness of winter  
in her hands

## **starting fires**

casting snow  
from a bundle of twigs  
the first warmth

borrowing twigs  
his hand outstretched  
to the meager fire

cold gathers  
the sulphur spark  
against thin wood

striking a match  
dawn flashed in  
the oval mirror

cloud mountain  
sitting around the stove  
feet on the fender

above the wood stove  
the antique mirror  
reflects the warmth

sunsets  
in a much-used fireplace  
a scratched match

deep in the forest  
a blazing stove  
hearts beating

black wood stove  
the bright sounds  
of warmth

into the clearing  
wood smoke  
for pea soup

a rusty wood stove  
warmth spreads into the room  
star-shaped

silence  
a log breathing  
tongues of flame

the conversation  
between wood and the iron stove  
our few words

behind the stove  
the old clay demijohn  
of firewater

burned out  
remains of a cabin  
a fireplace

dark in dark  
then lighting logs  
in the fireplace

blazing logs  
gas flowers bloom  
red and orange

gas flowers  
warm a winter room  
blazing logs

embers darken  
the eastern sky  
a warm glow

heavy fog  
enclosing the hearth fire  
gray stones

silence  
warmed by a wood stove  
winter

runes  
cracks in hearth stones'  
messages

polished red eyes  
in the copper kettle  
firelight

worm holes  
in the blazing log  
warm again

hearth stones  
around dark embers  
warmth

spirits  
forming fire  
into logs

quieter now  
flames subside  
in ashen sleep

rusty iron  
drawing flames  
above logs

punchline  
sparks from a log fire  
brighten the night

ah! the heat  
from old *Playboys*  
the fire starts

cliff side house  
inside ocean spray  
a fireplace

picture book  
flames from a curved log  
warm the heart

unfinished cabin  
insulated with bookshelves  
warm day and night

crash and burn  
the sound of surf  
in a fireplace

nights something growing  
wood in the stove  
a flame

humming  
the started fire  
my chattering teeth

## **winter clearance sales**

winter clearance sale  
the size of snowflakes  
coming down together

## winter illness

wild with fever  
dreams come wearing masks  
pale at dawn

my back to the floor  
walls become slatted trees  
wobbly with fever

sick in bed all day  
how the shape of the oak  
has entertained me

after the flu  
cups half-filled with tea  
very small steps

even when ill  
the day ends  
with evening

chewing cough drops  
a basket of nose-wet tissues  
spill to a sneeze

around the eaves  
the wind whistles  
into an earache

in her fevered brain  
the patterns in the quilt  
solid blocks of light

winter cold  
snowdrifts  
of damp tissues

coughing  
the sky fills with flakes  
of hard snow

for grandma  
with love at Christmas  
- the flu -

sickroom feeling  
the fake formica  
flooring

ears open  
the soul follows  
the pain



to smell a splinter  
long under the skin  
my little finger  
rain predicted  
calling the doctor  
for an appointment  
a confused brain  
unscrambling the diagnosis  
renal failure  
at your side  
the huge bandage  
without comment  
in the hospital  
your house slippers scuffed  
by our floors  
after the injection  
you smile at my story  
and sleep  
migraine  
sitting in a canyon  
on a split rock  
recuperating  
all the electricity  
back in the lamp  
care full  
folding the new stitches  
into a chair  
a fuzzy bicycle  
straddling my nose  
bifocals  
new reading glasses  
a black blur  
crosses the threshold  
a poultice  
on my shoulder  
dreams of haymaking  
two days  
separated by the sameness  
a broken bone

cast  
in plaster  
throbbing  
blue tin cup  
the burn on a finger  
blistering  
steady rain  
the dentist's drill  
turning to snow  
snowing again  
a cold wind bites  
the newly capped tooth  
junkie  
veins holding a heart  
above dark waters  
pain  
a wound without shape  
cut-away skin

### **winter's seclusion**

winter rain  
the cook eats alone  
in the dining room  
roof  
a silent slice  
into the sky  
broken shells  
the fishing boat pulled ashore  
for winter  
closed shops  
a loose board bangs  
on the winter wind  
well-tended gardens  
here lies the snow  
especially deep  
blunt with ice  
the barge's bowsprit  
anchored fast  
wind  
bothering the drapes  
of a closed window

battery cables  
giving winter's morning  
a jump start  
home again  
my lacy white pillow  
ocean surf  
unpainted porch  
sea fog comes  
to a closed door  
clearing his throat  
the lawyer plays with the fob  
on his watch chain

## writing

light heart  
the pressure of writing  
with lead pencils  
ashes of incense  
a page of poems  
hiding words  
before the journey  
my last poems  
copied neatly  
winter shadows  
poems written on the back  
of an electric bill  
poetry  
covering holes in the wall  
with a wide brush  
silence  
white paper  
unmarked  
ink blot  
where haiku  
sleeps  
smudging  
a page of poems  
ashes  
sleep  
with the poem  
written down

poetry contest  
my name misspelled  
on the first line

rainy weather  
award propped on the table  
sticks to the sugar bowl

rainy day  
poems on the page  
water spots

pen moving  
in the dark black ink  
of clear images

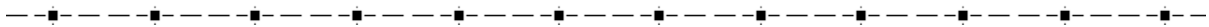
a chain link fence  
writing renga in prison  
holds him together

beach poems  
written on driftwood  
with charcoal

rough paper  
snagging ideas  
in black

writing down a poem  
in that time-space  
the fire takes hold

morning's faint light  
seeing again the words  
in the sent letter



## **WINTER Animals**

### **barnyard animals**

cows in the barn  
the wet eye in the meadow  
frozen shut

## **bear**

tall tales  
of bears on the ridge  
a garbage can tips  
winter day  
as a hairless bear  
sleeping sleeping

## **black birds**

flying from the branch  
sun in a bird's wing  
a shower of snow  
blackbirds leaving  
on bare winter wands  
pussy willows  
winter birds  
kicking down fireworks  
from snowy twigs  
arranged  
on bare branches  
bird songs  
bare branch  
extended by a bird  
in flight  
river clouds  
clots of black birds  
darken the sky  
a flutter of wings  
yet the bare branch  
stays bent  
story of a life  
in a foreign language  
nut hulls on melting snow  
drawing cliffs  
a black bird  
the brush  
feathered wing  
tips jagged sea  
rocks sharp north wind

**birds - caged**

mirrored  
in a bird cage  
a child's face

**birds - sleeping**

winter dawn came  
as the sound of blowing snow  
sleeping birds

**cocoon**

thin wet snow  
the warm wiggle within  
a cocoon

**cats - old**

what dreams  
holding on one's lap  
a sleeping cat  
dreaming  
her quivering paws  
still catching mice  
into a windy night  
the cat takes her cries  
to be let in  
winter's cat  
all of her wants  
in my lap  
winter stars  
cat claws in the screen door  
desperately cold  
storm wind  
in the cat's teeth  
meowing  
cold  
comes to bed at two  
the white cat

**dog**

his dog moves closer  
the owner quotes a price  
for land and trees

injured dog  
all of his words  
in one eye

the dog  
scratches as owner  
his fleas

only vertebrae  
the found white flowers  
of a pet dog

a barking dog  
little bits of night  
breaking off

dark voices  
of night bushes  
a dog barks

a Pekinese  
barking at Mozart's aria  
then everyone claps

crunch of bones  
in the hollow places  
between the dog's teeth

retreating waves  
a tiny barking dog  
has them scared

## **dolphins**

dolphins  
arching rainbows  
of opal light

## **doves**

hands in the light  
at peace demonstrations  
the flutter of doves

## **eagle**

eagle soars  
beyond boundary lines  
a judge on a bench

line of words  
holding the day  
we saw the eagle

## **egret**

snow white  
egrets preen their feathers  
by cotton fields  
nobility  
wading in up to their knees  
egrets  
an egret  
the elegance of patience  
in a tide pool

## **fish**

salt sea  
the bones of fish  
crystallized  
red winter's dawn  
trout for breakfast  
slightly smoked  
ripples in water  
fish spines  
and mine  
mountain moon  
part of the ice-rimmed pond  
eyes of trout  
scaling fish  
from the waning moon  
snowflakes  
thawing  
frozen fish  
caught in summer

## **geese**

shapes of geese  
cut from the snowy whiteness  
nothing lacking

## **gull**

a sneeze  
in the old sea gull's  
knobby knees  
white surf  
lining the coast  
a band of gulls



screaming  
at the booming surf  
a band of gulls  
silent sea creatures  
feeding  
the cries of gulls  
passing flock  
out of a clear blue sky  
cry of a lone gull  
visiting sea gulls  
on a winter beach  
an old couple  
winter storm  
landing with a sea gull  
one feather falls free  
sea gulls  
the sacred script  
in blue  
sea gulls  
lifting from wild surf  
spindrift  
shadow on the sea  
a wave forming  
a gull's wing

## **herons**

a blue heron  
staring at  
a blue heron

## **horse**

deep snow  
the horse walks the paths  
of summer  
a white cloud  
hanging on the horse's nose  
to keep warm  
riderless horses  
in the high road sky  
before the storm

with the thaw  
buckling the old saddle  
on a frisky horse

snowbound  
black and white horses  
stay in the stall

a white stallion  
sea fog on snow  
suddenly solid

high-tide beach  
filling hoof tracks  
horses

my new road  
violated by a horse  
ridden by a stranger

after days of rain  
the first sunbeam on the road  
a galloping horse

riding in waves  
horse tracks on wet sand  
scalloping

## **monkey**

wet monkey hair  
organ grinder's tinkley tunes  
in a cold rain

## **mouse**

in winter walls  
our own mice hoard  
the warmth

wind moving grasses  
quick as a mouse  
stealing seeds

a mouse  
immeasurable  
in me

the mouse and I share  
her nest in the sock drawer  
my house in the woods

**mussels**

high tide  
mussel soup  
ready to eat

**owl**

from his tongue  
wind tears the screech  
of a snow owl

sea fog wings  
over coastal hills  
a white owl

wind  
in the snow owl's wing tips  
*whoo*

moving  
a handful of moonlight  
the owl's wing

your snoring  
the owl answers  
some dreams

night skies  
on the owl's breast  
dawn

Cathedral Canyon  
suddenly an Indian maid says  
*"See the white owl?"*

night skies  
under the owl's wing  
mouse hearts

**pig**

ham and beet tops  
for dinner our neighbor's  
pet pig

**polar bears**

solar cells  
in polar bear hairs  
ice crystals

**plover**

thawing  
the face of the lake  
plovers crying

**raccoon**

raccoon's silence  
emptying garbage can fill  
the night with sound

**rats**

waterfront motel  
for \$125 a night  
watching the rats

**salamander**

fertilizer sack  
hiding the salamander dreams  
up more magic

**sandpipers**

sandpipers  
skimming from the beach  
silence

**sheep - mother**

mother sheep  
in her mouth melts  
hoar frost on grass

**sparrow**

stop sign  
the sparrow lands with a bug  
dead in its mouth

**starfish**

patterns  
on the starfish  
snow crystals

**starlings**

notes arranged  
on telephone poles  
starling songs  
three-string banjo  
songs of starlings  
on telephone wires

## **tracks in snow**

after the dart game  
in new fallen snow  
deer tracks  
on the path  
the hop marks of rabbits  
wink of snow  
thanks for crumbs  
scattered on the frozen snow  
seed hulls with tracks

## **vultures**

circling us  
vultures sense  
a rotting marriage

## **whale**

whale migration  
mapped  
songs  
whale songs  
long slow straight  
grain in wood  
quiet sea  
only migrating whales  
blow  
ocean depths  
sunlight laces history  
in whales  
south on highway one  
passing whales  
headed north  
newspaper folded  
all eyes drawn seaward  
by passing whales  
evening  
sunsets into the sea  
a guide for whales  
hot tub steam  
in ocean fog  
whale songs

whales  
following the quarter moon  
with half-closed eyes

whales  
dividing the ocean  
east and west

a wall of water  
curves and crashes  
a whale

great ears  
whale bodies ocean deep  
messages

sand and rocks  
building whales bones  
sea stars

sea surprise  
plumes of whale breath  
bell buoy clanging

small bumps  
on wide blue seas  
whales

stars  
whales  
roadmaps

a high hill  
calls to a whale  
lighthouse

to sleep  
where whales deep  
and dolphins play

bones buried  
in the backs of whales  
their hind legs

floating island  
carrying its own cloud of mist  
migrating whale

**whistling swans**

*swans winter-over on  
the Garcia River delta*

whistling swans  
birthdeath of a wet year  
on a green wing

goose pimples  
seeing in winter  
many whistling swans

**wild duck**

the wild duck  
as if to shake off frost  
the moonlight

winter  
coming around the bend  
wild ducks

dawn even lighter  
than snow covered branches  
cry of ducks

**winter fly**

winter fly  
chased by the rainbows  
of cut glass

**wolf**

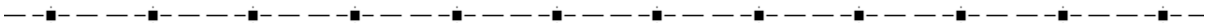
a night howl  
from deep in a wolf  
into the dark

**woodpecker**

tall dead pine  
the tiny holes of the woodpecker's  
pantry

**wren**

a small brown wren  
trapped in my house  
I in my realm



## WINTER Plants

### amaryllis

swollen  
the amaryllis bud  
already red

low-slanted sun  
in the red amaryllis  
turning on lights

### bare trees

live oaks  
changing their shapes  
the fog

leaving the light  
trunks of tall trees  
sink into roots

in the clearing  
hovering a circle of trees  
their halos

bare trees  
hidden in purple vapor  
swollen buds

German gray  
decorated with snow  
popsicle trees

wood smoke  
shaping the radiant bodies  
of trees in winter

### beech

melted snow water  
trickling over the veins  
of a dried beech leaf

### birches

crossed at the ankles  
her lovely legs  
among young birches

birches  
in the beveled glass  
winter



snow rain  
the thin birch branches  
so very slender

white birches  
black and white in snow  
at lava point

the fire dies  
among naked birches  
burned bones

## **Black Forest**

black forest  
night extinguishes  
the snow

sun and snow  
still in the pines  
the black forest

## **bracken - winter**

rusty red the bracken  
its shape lost as the cold  
takes the bird's wing

winter bracken  
frail hands push aside  
a garden path

## **branch**

after the storm  
rain covers the scar  
a branch blown away

whalebone tree limb  
to rock this child  
the sun's passing

winter freeze  
buds of passion flower  
faint with pink

## **buds**

rhododendron park  
buds too  
closed till spring

silence  
of winter leaves  
tightly rolled buds

## **cedar**

bent cedars  
facing north all night  
snow-covered  
  
before rice shoots  
in paddy ponds the tips  
of ancient cedars  
  
low clouds  
bending cedar tips  
rain  
  
mountain winds  
from the unseen temple  
cedar incense  
  
cementing  
the cedars in place  
sea fog

## **cypress**

rooted in rocks  
winter rains  
twist a cypress  
  
sky calligraphy  
the pruned cypress  
grown tall

## **dried weeds**

her tinkling laugh  
dried weeds stiff  
with ice

## **grasses - withered**

thin dune grass  
weaving winter sunshine  
warm into the wind  
  
white rim  
of wild winter seas  
withered grass  
  
water music  
sea winds scraping  
frozen grass

**evergreens**

seeds scattered  
around the evergreen trees  
a complete circle

**fir**

silver tipped  
snow deepening  
fir silence

**hothouse flowers**

well-watered  
the hothouse violet  
withers

**ice plants**

storm seas  
tearing from sea cliff rocks  
ice plants

**lichens**

granite boulders  
footprints from dancing  
covered with lichens

**manzanita**

spaced out  
tiny manzanita flowers  
among snowflakes  
bouncing  
out of manzanita bushes  
hail and blossoms  
stronger white  
blossoms remaining  
after the hailstorm

**oaks**

resort in winter  
the black fountains  
of oaks  
wrinkles in hills  
shadows of crooked branches  
of barren oaks

**onion**

all their halos  
falling in the soup  
onions

pulling onions  
sea fog drift apart  
neighbors come by

**oranges**

red candle  
holding a bunch of oranges  
for the winter sun

winter sun  
wet silk folded  
in an orange

**pampas grass - withered**

winter storms  
as plumes of surf rise  
pampas grass nods

**persimmon**

red-breasted birds  
among ripe persimmons  
hiding from the cold

**plum**

north wind  
spinning snow blossoms  
into bare plum

**pine**

snowfields  
black pine roots twist  
a dark stream

scrawny pines  
all twigs and branches  
in scanty snow

a crowing crow  
up the canyon a wind  
sharp pine fragrance

cliff hanging  
in a gnarled pine  
crooked sunshine

alive again  
morning sun  
on the dead pine

snow-bending  
pine boughs  
drifted

crossing to the island  
pines have arrived  
before us

deep in the forest  
the taper of pines  
brightens the clearing

high principles  
inner power of pine trees  
reaching the sky

pine needles  
sticking into the fog  
raindrops

moving around  
the wind in the pines  
comes home

snow-covered pines  
Yosemite Falls  
in white water plumes

wind fury  
in its shape  
a crooked pine

shadow of a tall pine  
sweeping an arch  
low around the earth

a split rock  
pine shadow  
slips in

sighing  
wind takes from pines  
their history

spindrift  
hangs in shore pines  
moss

wisps of fog  
writing Persian poetry  
with the pine

**poinsettia**

bright red leaves  
held so high by a winter stem  
poinsettia

**popcorn**

country Christmas  
under a sprinkle of stars  
stringing popcorn

**reeds**

rain in the reeds  
in her mind the river flows  
backwards

withered reeds  
all bent one way  
by ice

even colder  
the breath of the north wind  
between broken reeds

**roots**

meandering stream  
dark amidst the snow  
twisted roots

winter willows  
a vase full of roots  
rain runs from

the meekness  
of trees with roots exposed  
the icy creek

mountain pines  
moving as I walk  
these rootless things

**sagebrush**

sagebrush  
sweetened with snow  
plump flowers

sage brush blooms  
five inches of snow  
purified  
cleaner  
on the sagebrush  
snow

## **sedges**

sky writing  
sedges gracefully line  
"Mirror Marsh"

## **sequoia**

snow-melt  
speaking to noble sequoias  
in whispers

giant sequoia roots  
running away  
in a snow-melt stream

fantasy  
in an old sequoia  
a brown bear

standing alone  
the elegance of sequoia  
balanced

giant sequoia  
a finger counting rings  
touches history

keeping cameras away  
the imperial height  
of sequoias

running water  
giant sequoia roots  
not moved

sequoias  
their tallness presses  
roots in rocks

sequoias  
their roots  
rocks

Yosemite  
after all the waterfalls  
uplifted by sequoias  
2000 year old tree  
*"it should live forever"*  
whispers a child  
snow-melt stream  
the sound of giant sequoias  
growth  
cinnamon red  
the last rays of sun  
in fragrant trees  
cinnamon red  
the fragrance of sequoia  
in the color  
on the wooden path  
old folks walk slowly  
among ancient trees

**straw**

on frozen snow  
still warm from the cow barn  
broken straw

**sugar pine**

surrounding a tree  
the puzzling shapes  
of sugar-pine bark

**tumbleweeds**

tumbleweeds  
piled against barbed wire  
snow's lacy patterns

**tulip spears**

winter rain  
on Holland's tulip spears  
empty rooms

**vines**

vines  
against a brick schoolhouse  
clinging snow



## winter bushes

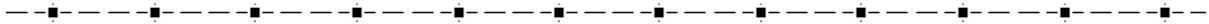
small bushes  
cover the desert floor blue  
winter sunset

## withered leaves

up to a branch  
wind took a winter leaf  
let it fall again

snow  
cooling the colors  
withered leaves

frost spikes  
the growing cold  
of withered leaves



**Finis**