

DREAMING SUNLIGHT

HAIKU



by

Margarita Engle



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**Website URL: <http://www.waddysweb.freeuk.com>
e-mail: john@waddysweb.freeuk.com**

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for Curtis

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eyes drinking sunlight
I open my mouth
and my mind

suddenly seeing
haiku
from God:

*I am with you
that is all you need
2 Corinthians. 12: 9*

Old Masters' exhibit
Christ on the cross
chiaroscuro

morning walk
at my side a white feather
floating

rippling northward
a serpentine
of wild geese

April storm
from cloud to cloud
the great blue heron

cold dawn
the hummingbird
already sipping

strawberry harvest
long rows of stooped backs
and wide hats

day of poetry
all other plans
abandoned

feathered sky
the angel wings
of cloud

Easter wind
the graceful dance
of a child's kite

memorial garden
the breeze sends a shower
of pear blossoms

seeking the source
of my garden's fragrance
a single hyacinth

between whirling butterflies
the bumblebee's ponderous
dance

garden at dawn
a daffodil points
to the half moon

iris show
a rainblow of blossoms
and gardeners

planting day
moving the sprinkler
moving the rainbow

miniature rose show
each blossom
a haiku

first summer heat
the peach pickers linger
in shade

spider
casting his net
harvest of dewdrops

flower stand
the vendor caressing
a rose

while counting
my blessings
the laughter of crows

crimson sunset
my husband filling his hat
with ripe tomatoes

from rose to rose
the spider's silvery
bridge

mid-summer chaos
an arrow of geese
aiming east

summer storm
I deliver a teenager's
love note

heat wave
the giant sunflower
bowing its head

between two days
of blue heat
blue moon

endless heat
shadows of birds
thoughts of shade

wildfire season
a blaze
of purple roses

off-duty
the tracking dog chases
a butterfly

wilderness road
two tiger swallowtails
dancing

sharing a pillow
girl and dog
dream

summer solstice
ending a feud
with the neighbors

high above
the bulldozed pasture
homeless geese

troubled times
watching wild birds
instead of news

surrounding
the blind man's yard
brilliant roses

guarding
the blind man's lawn
wild geese

dream-dancing all night
in time to the fountain's
rhythm

thorny weeds
a small child's love note
impaled

beachcombing
my grown daughter just as thrilled
as when she was three

low tide
a miniature sandcastle
waiting

indigo sky
the plankton moon's
tail of cloud

glassy-winged waves
surfers and pelicans
waiting

fragrant garden
no trace of yesterday's
worries

overgrown garden
welcoming weeds along with
the wildflowers

summer's end
green leaves arranged
in a dry basket

mountain meadow
the evening rush hour
of dragonflies

day of confusion
wild geese rearranging
their V

uprooted
the rock rose
keeps blooming

melancholy walk
a mourning dove
leads the way

day of sorrow
a long skein of geese
unravelling

seeking solace
I wander outdoors
cradle moon

inland valley
wayward seagulls glide
into storm clouds

struggling upwind
a dove's patient
flight

serpent of cloud
in its belly
the radiant moon

windstorm
the stillness
of doves

landscaped streambed
smooth cobbles
so carefully tumbled

old rooster
teaching the young ones
to crow

neglected garden
daisies rest their white heads
on a bench

counting my troubles
I brush away
cobwebs

one more day of chaos
the migrating geese
fly in circles

embraced
by forest trees
waning moon

left behind
by jubilant geese
I gaze south

head over fence
does the old horse
share my daydreams?

blue silk chrysanthemums
each petal a miniature
ocean

midlife decisions
mountain road
drifting clouds

by lamplight
I read about
moon bridges

winter sky
a storm of blackbirds
landing

drifting fog
a herd of white horses
listening

day of indecision
the wild peacock's
wistful cry

pale fog
the sensuous tango
of egrets

tunnel of trees
light at the end
full moon

two days before Christmas
the season's
last rose

Christmas fog
rising sun and fading moon
become twins

roadside cross
red berries mark
one more Christmas

after Christmas
the trash truck's fragrance
of pine trees

cold New Year's dawn
the Thanksgiving wishbone
still waiting

misty pasture
the lone palomino's
radiance

dreaming sunlight
if only spring would come
while I'm awake

out rambling before dawn
mischievous
man-in-the-moon

after soft rain
a silver balloon
joins white clouds

old Botanic Garden
young lovers entwined
amidst statues

after dreaming
of music
a mockingbird's song

sun after rain
the old house and old barn
both swaybacked

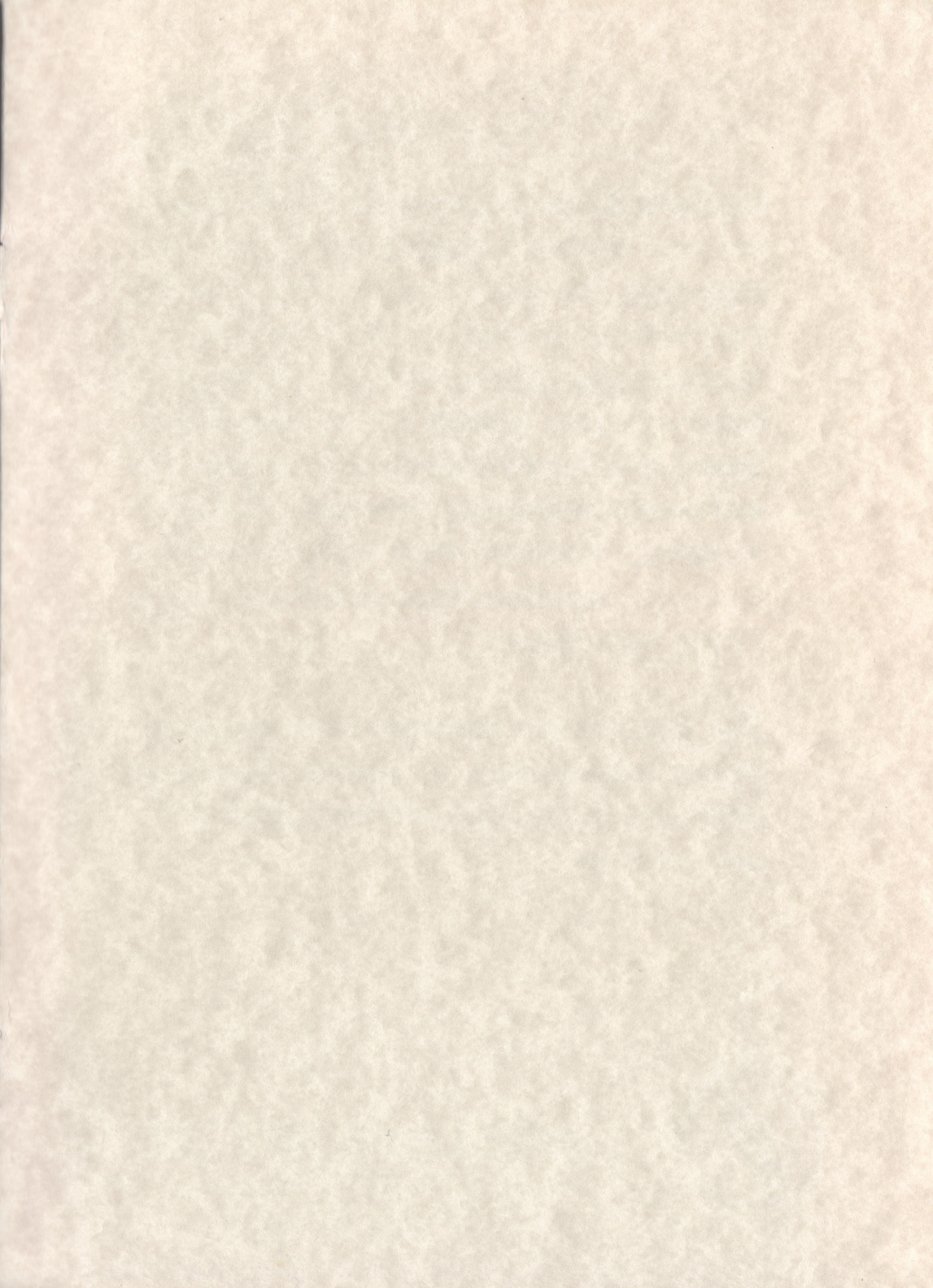
after dense fog
sunlight releases
the half moon

after
dreaming
of haiku:

my God
turns my darkness
into light

Psalm 18: 28

reading outdoors
I inhale sunlight
and wonder



Margarita Engle is a botanist and the author of two novels, Singing to Cuba and Skywriting. Her Haiku have appeared in many international journals, and in anthologies such as Haiku Moment and A Haiku Path. Her literary awards include a San Diego Book award, a Cintas Fellowship and various haiku and poetry awards from the Haiku Society of America, National PEN Women, Tanka Splendor, High/Coo Press and the American Poetry Association.

The haiku in this collection were composed during prayerwalks in central California, where the author lives with her husband, son and daughter.



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