



THE WHITENESS OF WILD PLUM

NORMAN BARRACLOUGH

The whiteness of wild plum gathers eight haiku by Norman Barraclough. Norman died suddenly on April 18th 1998 aged 71 years on a walk, whilst attending a conference of the British Haiku Society in Ludlow, Shropshire. An active member of the society, Norman was known for his warmth and friendliness, he will be much missed.

This life is fleeting. Haiku are nostalgia for that which we cannot grasp.

THE WHITENESS OF WILD PLUM

a clouded dawn -
seeping sunrise in raindrops
on sapling branches

overgrown garden pond -
the old stone philosopher
staring back

nature trail gossip -
a Mullien caterpillar
on Water Figwort

poised for an instant -
the blue of a damselfly,
yellow irises

streaming tufts of fleece
caught up on the barbed-wire fence
the wind in our hair

only

the whiteness of wild plum
and the passing cloud

at both ends
of the footbridge
fallen leaves

through falling snow
hillside house lights
the hoot of an owl

This booklet is intended for free distribution only
among those who attended the conference in Ludlow.
The printing of these poems does not constitute
publication.

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