

Password

journal of very short poetry

issue 3.3, October 2026



autumn runs on half a Buson

Marilyn Ashbaugh

words
without stress
drifting leaves

Hifsa Ashraf

walnut shell...
I know you
the way you know me

Steliana Voicu

October unmasking the decoy

Cherie Hunter Day

end of summer
the paper fan's
sharp creases

Carolyn Hall

rain released
from the white keys
high summer grass

Beverly Acuff Momoi

summer's peak
a glittering cloud
of smithereens

Lev Hart

ripen mangos
the fly in me
buzzing on

Hifsa Ashraf

chrysanthemum's white noise night light

Ron Scully

morning glories,
their time
on task

Patrick Sweeney

autumn
slower light
faster geese

Luther Allen

Gulf dark with mullet the dive bomb pelican

Jo Balistreri



Cherie Hunter Day

the man cut out of black paper

Richard Magahiz

no shadow my out-
line lighter for
what it knows

Rebecca Lilly

imagine at my age in the dark renting tiny guffaws

David Boyer

Sometimes
a Hawk

is spiritual
and

Sometimes
a Hawk

Tor Lee



Debbie Strange

wooded the sun bursts
of yellow leaves falling
different word choices

Rebecca Lilly

how quickly
an acorn falls
in and out
of nouns

Dan Schwerin

watch these stars by which I mean the trees by which bewitch

David Boyer

Truckled
to
the
flower

Like a Dissolute
Bee

Tor Lee

co-op
beside the birdbath
a bee shower

Tracy Royce

carpenter bee
holy woodwork

William Cullen Jr.

hanging
with purpose
an apple

Victor Ortiz

The Critique of Pure Reason cherry blossoms

Joshua St. Claire

and that one time i rose with a plum

Kelly Sauvage Moyer

In the beginning cherry blossoms

Lev Hart

merry-go-round all the tiny gods

Joshua St. Claire

108 incantations
qualifying
for prime delivery

Kelly Sauvage Moyer

piercing
the voice of god
in a bird-eating bird

Peter Newton

dare I say
wild roses
are all saints

Hifsa Ashraf



John Hawkhead

who was saved scarecrow on a cross

Gregory Longenecker

ينحني الجوري
فيتذمر الربيع
وطريقي قلم رصاص

The damask rose bends
spring grumbles
my road is a pencil

يشيخ البنفسج سريعا
النمل يستعجل الحصاد
فالشتاء قادم

The violet ages quickly
ants hurry the harvest
winter is coming

التوليب سجادة
تسرع بالاحتراق
شمعة الموتى

Tulips are a carpet
hurrying to burn
a candle for the dead

تشارك وردات امي
هذا العام
بمهرجان حقوق الانسان

My mother's roses take part
this year
in the Human Rights Festival

Mohamad Zaal Alsalloum

lilac blossoms
select all images
with bridges

Vishal Prabhu

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
false spring

LeRoy Gorman

forty-six springs...
she coughs in one room
I cough in the other

Patrick Sweeney

once was a scab I pick daily

John Pappas

cool morning —
dressed as a killer
I embark the train

mattina fresca:
abbigliato da killer
salgo sul treno

Maurizio Brancaleoni

old motel sign
one missing letter
still humming

Travis Park

acorns clatter—
charcoal startles
from her fingers

John Repp

Gauguin&cummings
paint&write
women&girls
like bowls of
pears&peaches

Sameer Saklani

a Pollock painting
on the station wall
paan stains

Govind Paliath

Emerald
green
fly
on my page
edge,

Like
Some
Dreamer

Tor Lee

and yet
it looks artificial...
a poppy

eppure sembra
artificiale...
un Papavero

Maurizio Brancaleoni

midnight sun
an artist sketches
moons

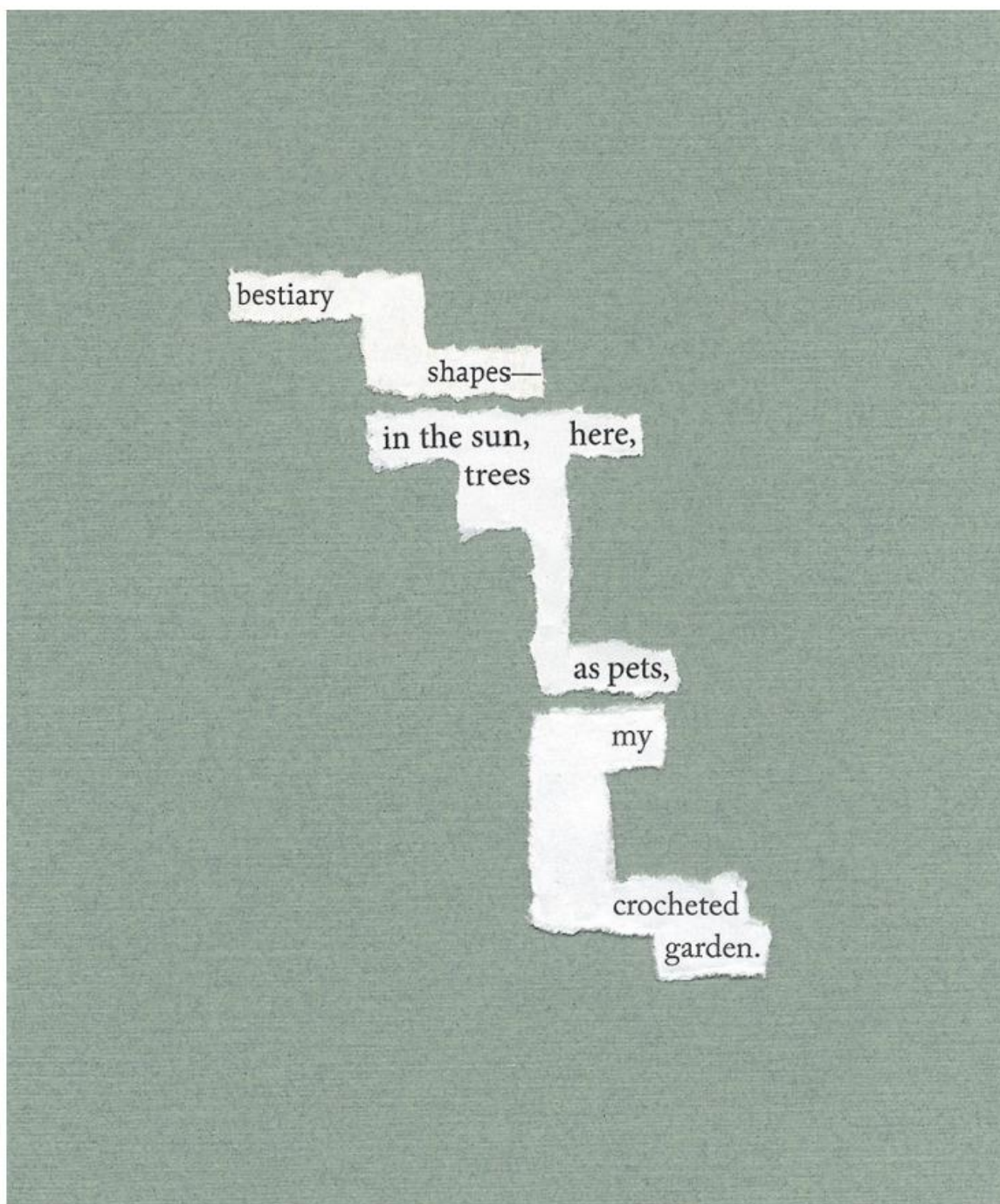
Valorie Broadhurst Woerdehoff

all those missing stories abducted young

Marietta McGregor

where dreams go to become tadpoles

George Swede



J.I. Kleinberg

the whistling tea kettle is coming from inside the hen

Sarah E. Metzler

self storage
still life
with chairs

Liza Boyce Linder

attic
another case
of sad doll disease

Sarah E. Metzler

folding the tabs
to dress paper dolls
reincarnation

Sondra J. Byrnes

some kind of bird
a feeling only
Norwegians name

Dennis Owen Frohlich

we fly off together paper crane

Gregory Longenecker

swirling-swift-o'clock
I will
meet you there

Sarah E. Metzler

one less tree
combing the night
for proof of owl

Tanya McDonald

i swear i can love gathering blackbirds

Dylan Stover

its wingtips tinged with night diving gannet

Olivier Schopfer

rampant grape vines
a hallelujah
of waxwings

Tanya McDonald

word
a for
the
curve
s w a n

John Shiffer



Haiku & Art: Shloka Shankar
Photo: John Levy

editing out split infinitives akibare

Shloka Shankar

bunting
salvaging history
from a floppy disc

Laurie Greer

To the Raven

If I tilt my head up and to the left,
you look like a deep river canyon
I used to know.

Tani Arness

step counter
until I find
the heron's eye

Cherie Hunter Day

cypress limbs an e-
llip sis of crows if
darkness were simple

Rebecca Lilly

dark matter
the bulk of nature
is not animal

M. R. Pelletier

Despair

Lost, captured, dropped,
tossed, fractured, chopped,
boiled, curved, bitten,
oiled, served, eaten.

Inna Ayrapetova

the mouse traps the stillness

Elmedin Kadric

an extra shipment of poors for the sacrifice to the robot mouse

David Boyer

Hokusai's wave
I am
a small boat

M. R. Pelletier

perhaps
with a fleet of little ships
bailing the ocean

Julie Schwerin

spring snow
glitters in her hair—
your question?

John Repp

night snow silently I learn to fall

David McKee

what
is
there
to
say
about a
trampled flower?

Sameer Saklani

wildflower walk
careful to step between
the stars

Jean LeBlanc

another day of counting clouds times table

Alan Summers

Le vent
Hesitant
Roule une cigarette d'air.

The wind
Undecided
Rolls an air cigarette.

Paul Éluard, from 'Pour Vivre Ici' (1920)
English translation by AC Clarke

how many times
has this rain fallen?
I must keep writing

Dennis Owen Frohlich

early chill
the unreadable
captcha

John Pappas

rocks the poem
being
the river exposed

Rebecca Lilly

sounds in repose listening to its own echo the prairie and its wolf

Jo Balistreri



Debbie Strange

in my
lo mein
his stutter

Robert Hirschfield

as far as a can may grasp stars

Victor Ortiz

her beautiful monsters prettier than mine

Sarah E. Metzler

dew
a spinneret
's invisible
fruit

Dylan Stover

the moon the moon the moon the lavender

Rowan Beckett Minor

sweater weather
I let the wood moon
inside

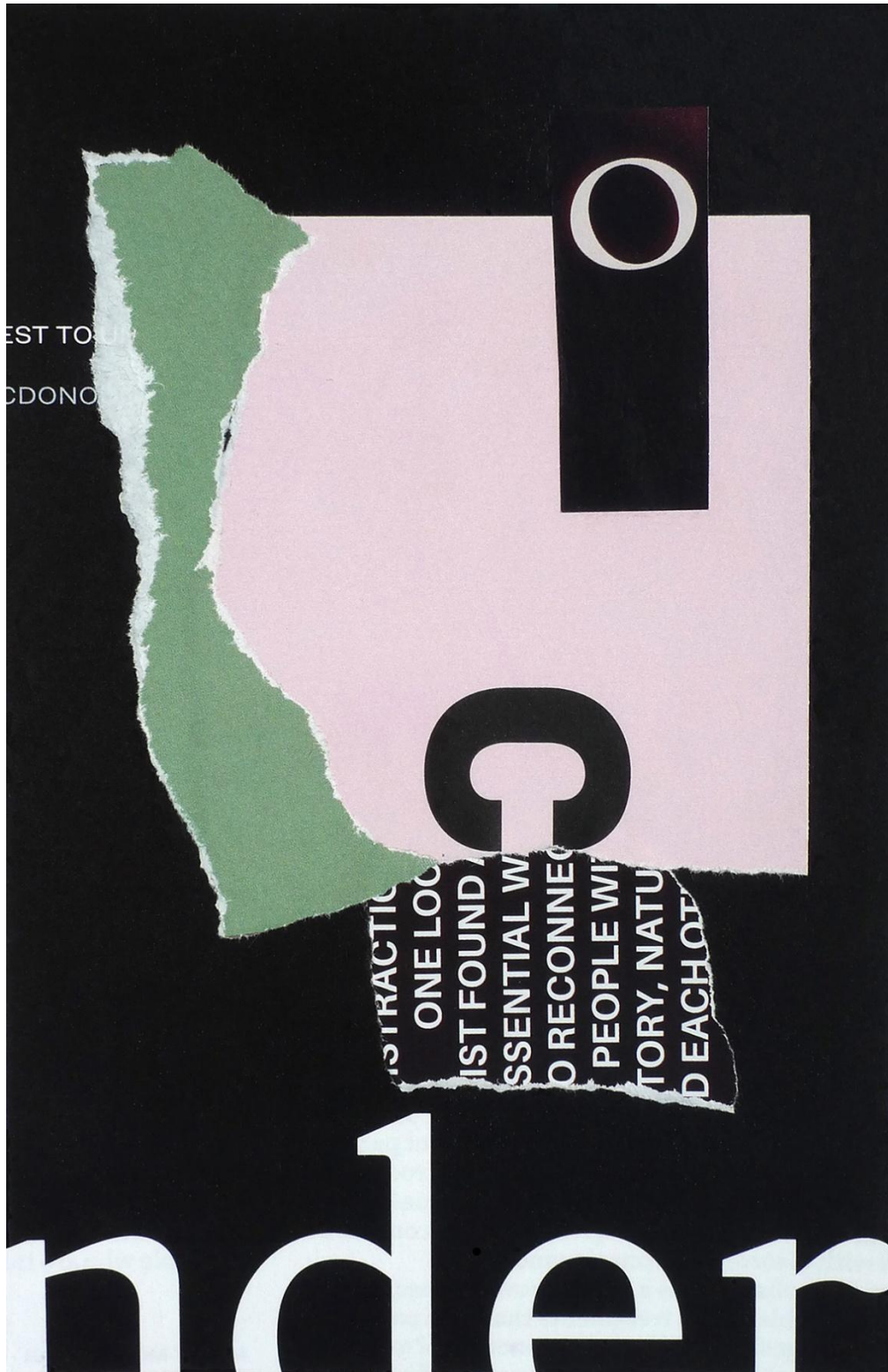
Steliana Voicu

I want to be
the fox-in-stream
and lope quietly on

Caroline Cottom

susquehanna river
all my electrons
peaking

Bridget Chebo Enggasser



Cherie Hunter Day

my genome
mostly
oak tree

David McKee

a seed darkens to where the light

Elmedin Kadric

creeping jasmine enjoys white privilege

Bridget Chebo Enggasser

the last message
of her android slowly sinking into
a kelp forest

Jacob D. Salzer

S'blood

The dawn is just now
 cracking open like an egg,
 its liquid golden
contents spilling out over
 the Missouri country-side
 with a few traces of blood.

Jason Ryberg

a wound
to be protected as an egg

the lark in it

singing
to a cracked sky

Peter Yovu

the meadow path
to the river
four friends wide

Peter Newton

per
petual mo
cean

Donna Fleischer

dead leaves on the water
thousands of little boats
are going to sink

feuilles mortes sur l'eau
des milliers de petits bateaux
vont couler

Marie Derley

a maple branch shakes its hanging sneakers

George Swede

the maple leaves
were about to turn red –
you haven't had time

les feuilles d'érable
allaient bientôt rougir –
tu n'as pas eu le temps

Marie Derley

my avatar updating my autumn

Matthew Markworth



Shloka Shankar

straw broom;
in a corner of the porch —
the sound of autumn

Donna Fleischer

tiny thing shining; flesh too dense to grasp an autumn

Ella Aboutboul

your costume is perfect, you're on stage
out of your own bones, but
15% prettier.

**a Richard Brautigan micro-cento, lines sourced from "Flora Shakespeare," "Cannibal Carpenter," and "15%"*

Tracy Royce

legs first first thing I'd
see out in front of me
over the back of
my house into woods
world, going in to it
all legs race horse
ahead of myself, utter-
ly free even from me

Donna Fleischer

Penelope at Her Loom

one

linden

leaf

whirling

in the

wind

wild

heart

between a rock

and Charybdis

the little syllables

so there there be monsters

where
 sea
storms
 blow
 no
 men
clature
 of
home

threshold	stepping through	the bent-back bow
in thrall to	the draw of	twisted sinew
tendrils	faithful to	its trellis

how the mind goes flying geese

Michele Root-Bernstein

copying
Pessoa's heteronyms
writing not to be
a me but
an
us
(those, too)

Donna Fleischer

a word
embarrasses itself
disambiguation

Sondra J. Byrnes

of course he had to (not the poet, not me) to make the fiction non-

David Boyer

between the lines
of Kafka's Metamorphosis
booklice

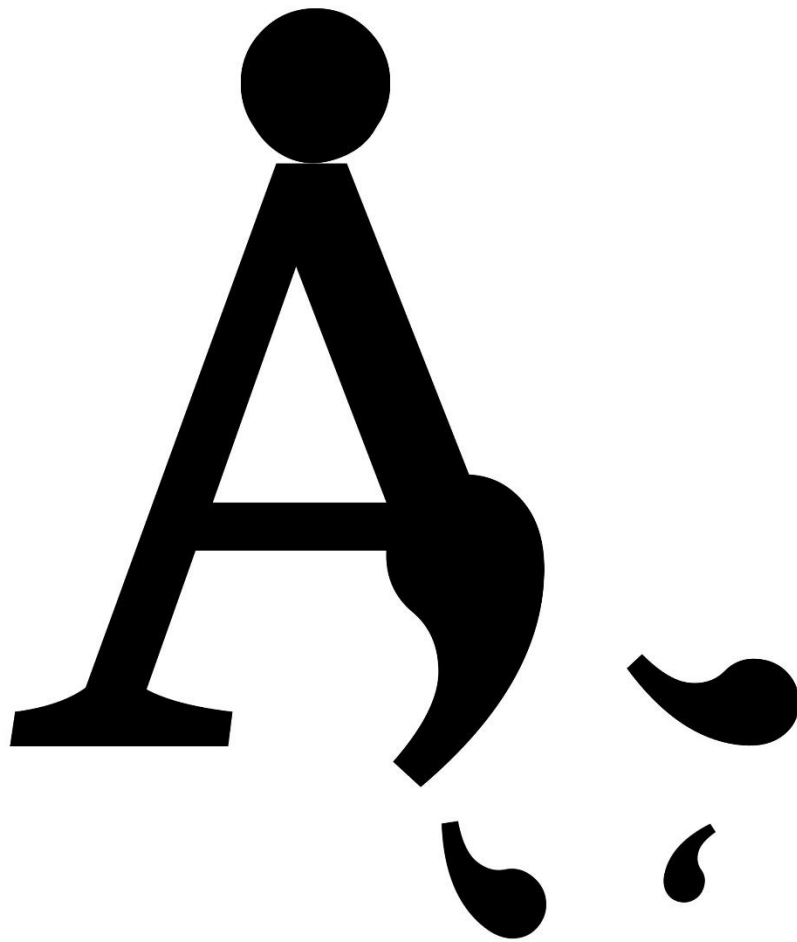
Govind Paliath

mindbody nobody's dyno problem bind

Michael Nickels-Wisdom

tapping around the edges
with a knife
border town

Julie Schwerin



Stephen Nelson

yes and
the hunger moon

Bryan Rickert

কিতার শব্দ করে?
পায়ে পায়ে বিলাই
রাক্ষসের হাসি শুনে হরিলাল।

who makes that sound?
the cat on soft paws
Harilal hears the laughter of a demon.

Murad

Bombs fall, teeth
too heavy for the mouth of the plane.

It moves on, muttering

was was was was was

Peter Yovu

sunflowers opening the morning gunfire

Marietta McGregor

rho	symbol
do	tone
den	foxfire
dron	killing machin

Forest Meadow

a hand reaching outside the trench butterfly

Lev Hart

the chorusing in & of
itself cocoons itself
out

Jonathan Humphrey

inside the cosmos
the dung beetle moving
heaven and earth

Francine Banwarth

twenty degrees cooler today the word ocean

Tanya McDonald

the cold light of day wrapped in ripped cellophane

Michael Nickels-Wisdom

whiteWashing(ton

LeRoy Gorman

through the news centrifuge

Ron Scully

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