



Sandbox

poems

Michael R. Lane

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Poetry

A Drop of Midnight

Fiction

Emancipation

The Gem Connection

UFOs and God (a collection of short stories)

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Plain INsights

I am not a professor of literature.
I am not a teacher of creative writing.
As a wordsmith, I find myself limited
to express what I can in hopes of art.
My history lists no significant awards of merit,
no fellowships, grants, MFAs or contest victories.
Still, passion and fervor burn deep inside of me
shoving me onward to observe each glint
and twinkle and burst and sparkle
of those ambient, brilliant hot shining stars
known commonly as inspiration.
I follow the universe.
I reach not to hold.
I empty myself of all expectations,
surrendering to the wanton will of The Muse.
My purpose is simple,
as are often my words:
to share plain insights with you.

The Nature of Dust (Form 1)

When moisture vacates
soil once rich and fertile
its particles defy gravity
play upon the whims of air
tickle ambient rays of sunlight
aligning themselves with
electromagnetic charges
of any solid, liquid or gas.

The Nature of Dust (Form 2)

A cloud bowl of burden
brimming with dead skin cells
and seasoned with withered flesh --
greedy dust mites feast
growing plump and sluggish
on what healthy lungs expel
as mucous particles into the air
that comes to rest on level surfaces.

The Nature of Dust (Form 3)

The Great Equalizer of low caste and high
ferments human remains of kind and evil.
Symbolic rituals entrenched in antiquated time
mesh with religious provisions of final farewells
from incinerating sun high to watery moon set
vessels ceremonially cremated by eternal flames.
Flesh, skin and bones cede to mother earth;
spirits liberated to play in their birth universe.

Water Drop

What is it like to be a drop of water?
A translucent raindrop born of a cloud
channeled along a gravity birth canal

an infinite procession of biological kin
raining down from sky or dripping from faucets,
changing form with insouciant ease

presiding in lakes and rivers, oceans and seas,
ponds and brooks, puddles and streams,
to nest at the heart of nourishment

for all animals, plants and fish --
a vital ingredient in all that is Earth,
absorbing elements like a fluent sponge

aware of historical eons predating genesis
where cognizant mortal-kind has not the final say.
Whether in solid stasis

or in crystal flight,
nature's clear liquid diet
the essence of life.