

Three Poems by Richard Alan Bunch

Sisterhood

As the sun sinks
in the wilderness
of uncharted words
and planets
and the chronicle
of desire wasted so soon
thanks to time's moving mirror,
no eye breathes
the sound of welcome,
but only fire and flames
in a war in which
we cannot help
but be harmed
by the chilly heartscape
and indifference of others.

We will either have descendants
who inherit these lines
or create a sisterhood
of saints who can create
a conspiracy of joy and unity
and, despite the brokenness,
allow the earth to blossom
into full flower.

This Earth's Dream

A moon with arabic numerals
shriveled with thinking
over vacant waters
eyes the rainbow's spray,
the migrations of birds
in starry regions
and arts of a storming sun.

We know earth's journey
is more than a fractal dream,
a music of string sense.

Of course we are intent
on finding our place
among the stars,
becoming legends
with our lines.

And there are those who scry
nothing but
future sorrow for you
in this glad period
such as the untrue,
impeachable heart's story
as penned in
frowns, whims and moods.

But do not forget
joys remain,
many
joys remain
since this earth's dream
is more than a journey.

The Fisherman

A fisherman with flies and tackle
comes under the spell
of logic and magic
as they echo the wind
and living red-sunned,
wave-washed, waters of the sea.

So far, he has avoided
the goddess of oblivion
and the swift rage of heaven.

He has weathered white voices
of ancient legends
and the dance
of twilight and seasoned showers.

He has looked in the mirror
and discovered colors
of the invisible
in golden sunflowers
and moonlit silence
in his search for the
be-all and end-all
seated in the lotus position.

Richard Alan Bunch is a three-time Pushcart Prize nominee and the author of several collections of poetry, including *Greatest Hits: 1970-2000*; *Wading the Russian River*; and *Running for Daybreak*. His poetry has appeared in *Windsor Review*, *Poetry New Zealand*, *Hurricane Review*, *Poem*, *Hawai'i Review*, *Many Mountains Moving*, *Red River Review*, *Slant*, *Homestead Review*, *Dirigible*, *Haight Ashbury Literary Journal*, *West Wind Review*, *Comstock Review*, and the *Oregon Review*. His latest work is titled *Zen Sight and Tangerine Butterflies: New and Selected Poems*. He resides with his family in Davis, California.