

UNTOUCHED BY RAIN

Pat Nolan



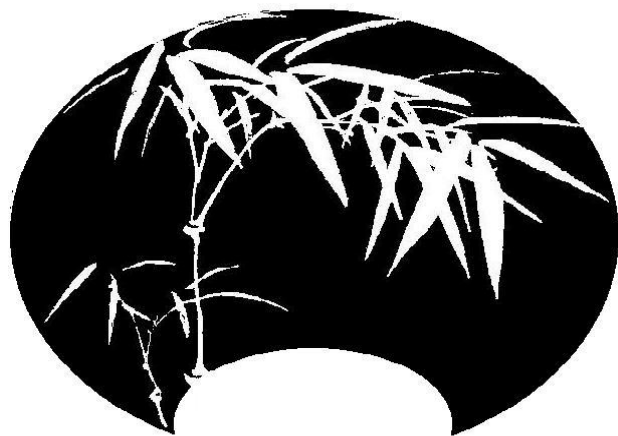
Text and Design

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Sun's wide low arc
sweeps across the yard
snow won't last the day

once you know it all
boredom comes easy



Mesmerized by colored
shapes I have to force myself
out of the armchair

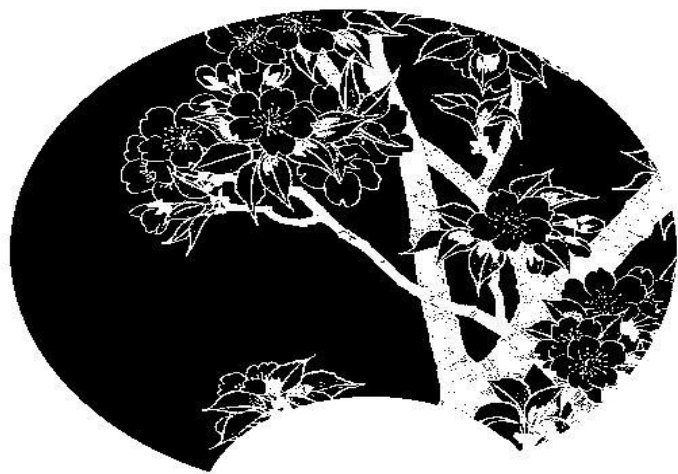
rich light of late
afternoon beckons

Brown river rising
creates islands with
its wider expectations

snail tracks hemstitch
the cracked concrete

Load of gravel delivered
I must have lifted a ton
shovel by shovel

moonlight gleams on
the rocks underfoot



A father dream wakes him
hot tears fall on his hand
the hand that waved good-bye

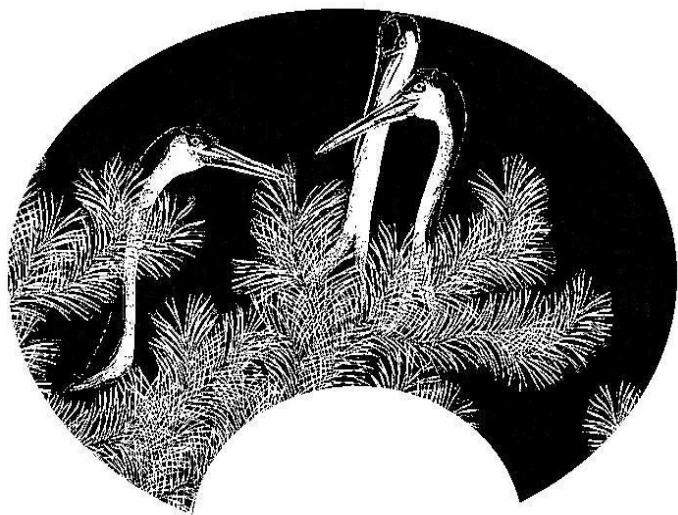
wild onions flourish
in the old tin bucket

Gossamer stretched quite
a distance glimmers
in the light noon breeze

the news isn't good
make the best of it

I promise myself
all the fine things
only to awaken

later came sooner
than I expected



Raking dead leaves out from
among the wild onions
| glimpse tide washed sea grass

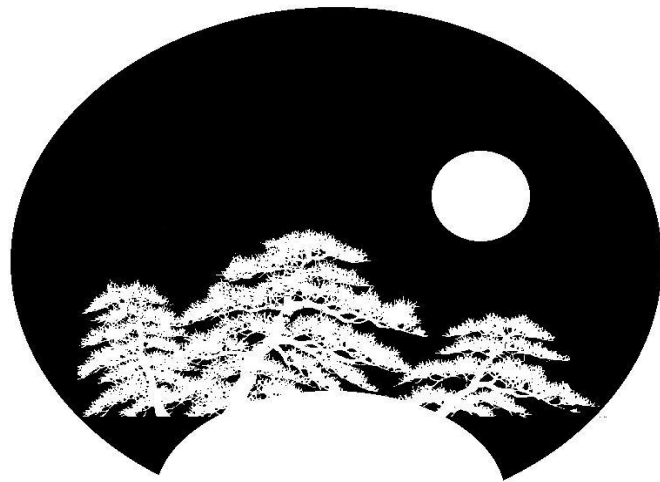
only the memory of spent ripples
placid green river

Rainy autumn day
rub up ink make tea
in old sauce pan

a cup to lighten sorrow
a cup to lighten sorrow

Streetlights came on
half a mile ago and
groceries already heavier

wind through the pines
monopolizes conversation



Coal black cat
pacing jailbird cooped up
what a shape to be in

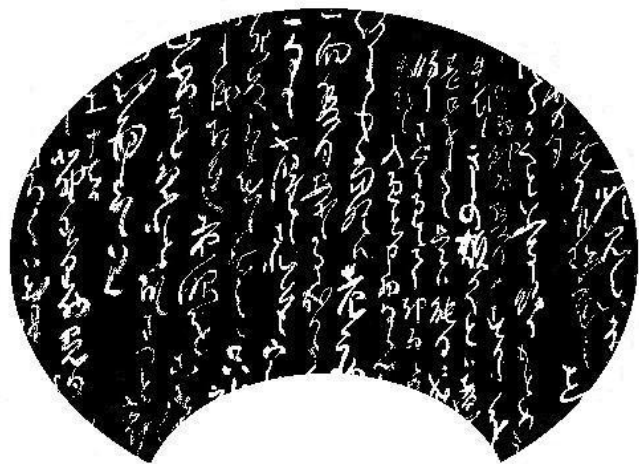
full moon above
the freezing horizon

Shoes finally kicked off
whole day on my feet escapes
through the tips of my toes

albino spider descends into
a last glimpse of daylight

I lift a leg on
the man who treats me like a dog
and he's surprised

my advice to the world
negative scary fundamentally flawed



The part of myself
I tend to deny leaks out
the tip of this pen

please say "I love you"
with a neon sign

Milk white fog
among the stark network
of bare branches

coffee mill whirrs
guests still sound asleep

Backing up to heater
glance out at autumn's colors
can that be rain

the long song over
now my silence begins



Days short
moon and I arrive home
at the same time

sober | drink in
the full effect

Put everything off
till later must think
I'm gonna live forever

bird on a limb
untouched by rain



UNTOUCHED BY RAIN

is a limited edition tanka sequence of 26
copies hand bound by the author, lettered
A through Z, signed and stamped with the author's seal.



EMPTY HEAD PRESS

Box 798 Monte Rio, CA 95462

