

# CRYSTAL PIERS

## chapter two

5/80 to 7/81

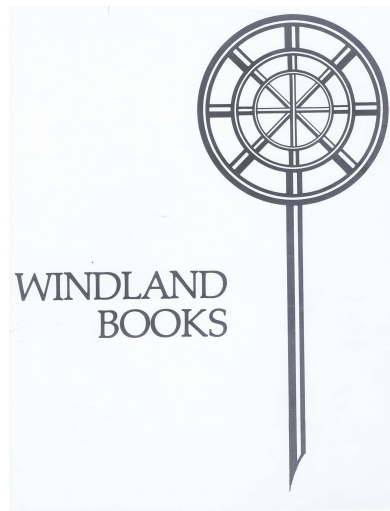
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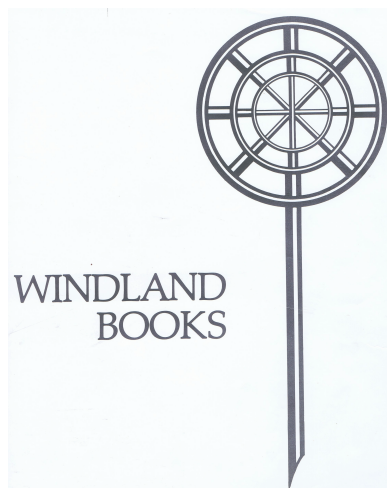
*To mom  
for being you*

WINDLAND  
BOOKS

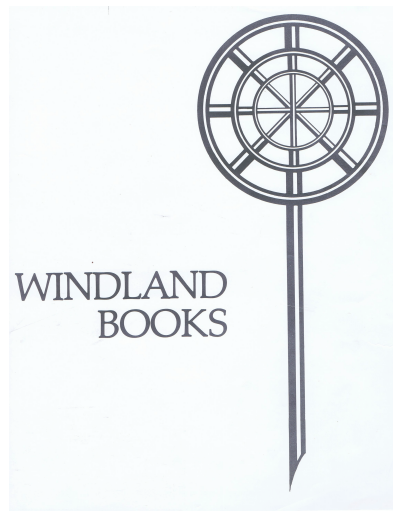


## ***THE COLLECTION***

*Crystal Piers*  
*Autumn Night*  
*Genesis*  
*Hands*  
*Sunflower*  
*Shelter*  
*What Is The Answer*  
*Waves*  
*Something Shared*  
*The Edge*  
*Notes*  
*The Tree*  
*Communique*  
*This Sunlit Room*  
*Forever*  
*What Could Be Love*  
*Falling In Love*  
*Still The Same*  
*A Heart*  
*I Shall Not Whisper*  
*Screams*  
*Screams Two*  
*Attempt*  
*Fell To Earth*  
*Into The Night*  
*Patches*  
*C# Minor*  
*Love; Loneliness*  
*To A Friend*  
*Ideas*  
*Love What Is Within*  
*Image Of Another*  
*Nonsense*  
*Isolation*  
*Fragments Of Life*



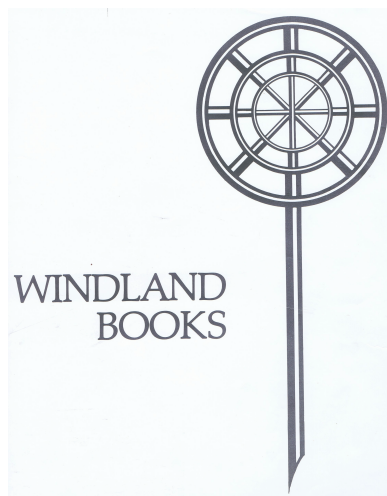
*The Dark*  
*First Love*  
*I Can*  
*Night Walk*



## ***CRYSTAL PIERS***

*Reaching out  
into the changing waters,  
we load our vessels  
with life.*

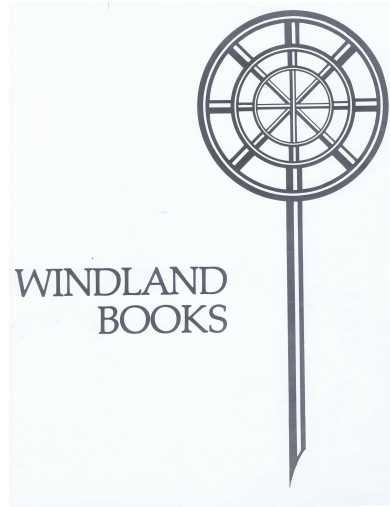
*We shatter  
the crystal piers,  
while walking to  
shimmers of light.*



***AUTUMN NIGHT***

*I cannot find you  
where have you run,  
a leaf has fallen  
from a tree,  
where have you gone.*

*I cannot feel  
what have you done,  
the ground  
has become cold,  
where are you sun.*



## **GENESIS**

*Eve*

*where are you now;  
using the same name,  
are you hiding  
from me somehow.*

*Eve*

*who are you now;  
is your hair the same,  
do you speak  
from the same mouth.*

*Eve*

*what are you now;  
do you see life the same,  
are you on  
the other side now.*

*Eve*

*when will we meet;  
will you know who I am,  
if you pass me  
on the street.*

*Eve*

*how will I know you;  
Its been a long time  
since genesis  
and the apples on the tree.*



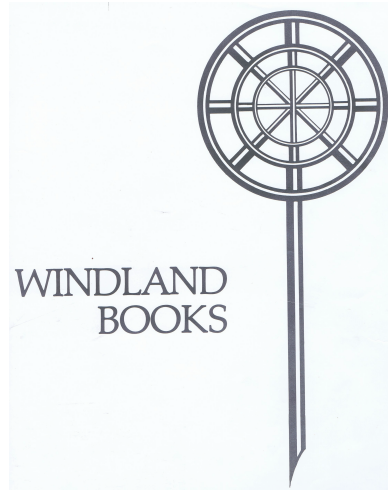
## ***HANDS***

*With my hands  
I know who you are,  
your limits and boundaries  
that reach out to the stars.*

*With my hands  
I know where you are,  
your radiant love  
that surrounds us all.*

*With my hands  
I know how you've become,  
what you mean to me.*

*With my hands  
I'll hold yours,  
and together we can share  
the light once more.*





## **SUNFLOWER**

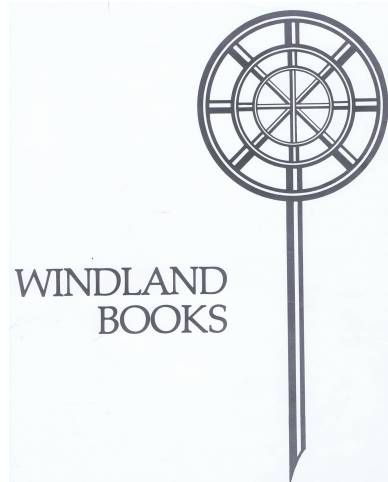
*Moving back  
to take  
a second look,  
of things  
I have mistaken  
to be my own.*

*A shadow  
cast by a tree  
shows up once more,  
the date has changed  
the thought of you before.*

*A road  
traveled upon  
shows me feelings  
I hold inside,  
popping up  
in different  
points of time.*

*A yellow leaf  
covers the sky,  
petals on the ground,  
brown centers  
move with the wind.*

*A sunflower  
I found.*



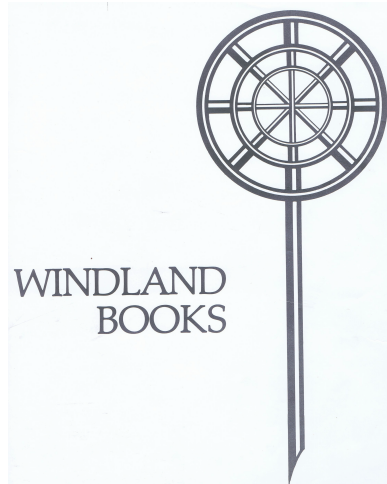
## ***SHELTER***

*Pillars of stone  
lay upon stairs  
overgrown with weeds,  
once standing  
mighty and proud  
has since  
been knocked down  
to lower grounds.*

*Cathedrals  
of peace and war,  
lay crumbled  
upon marble floors,  
no longer  
will people flourish  
to see the art there.*

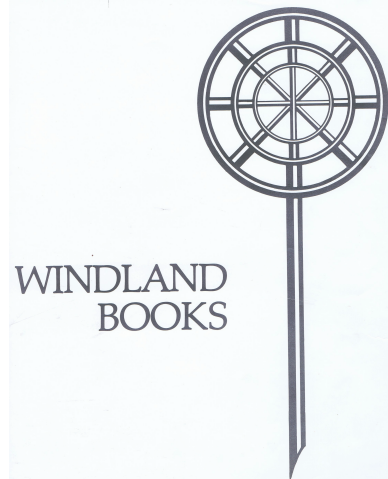
*Castles  
surrounded by moats  
nothing would live there  
not even a ghost,  
the draw bridge  
rusted shut  
no longer opening  
for visitors to enter.*

*Tombs  
we build  
for our own recluse  
will not protect  
our bones forever.*

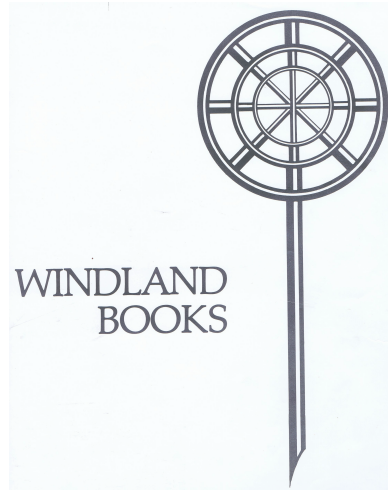


## **WHAT IS THE ANSWER**

*I hope you don't mind  
all the questions I ask,  
I'm only trying to find out;  
What I am  
Where I am  
Where I've been  
Who I've seen  
What I've learned  
What good I've done  
What bad I've done  
What confidence I've given  
What support I've shown  
What I've shared  
What I've taken  
What I've done to others  
What I've done to myself  
Why I'm here.  
I could say I see myself  
as a bird flying  
from one tree  
to the next,  
trying to find a branch  
that would support me,  
and give me a view  
of the life  
that surrounds me,  
or maybe  
I'm a rabbit,  
always on the run,  
from the fear  
of being caught  
as someone else's prey,  
burrowing into a hole  
and hiding so as not  
to be noticed*

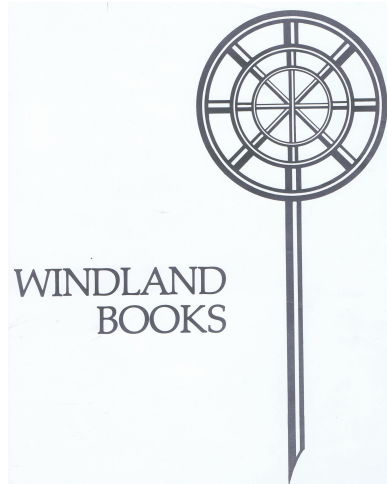


*in the game of life.  
Or maybe I'm a panther,  
dark and mysterious  
contradictory  
in my appearance  
satisfied with little change  
and then restless with none.  
Sometimes misunderstood  
feared and lonely.  
Why am I here  
Who will I meet  
Who shall I talk to  
Where in life  
should I stand,  
is my life  
the answer.*

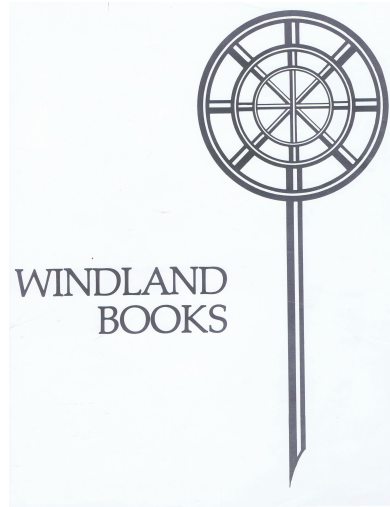


## WAVES

*Separate acts  
of reality,  
moves taken  
day to day.  
Am I the whole sum  
of these years,  
have I created  
a world real to me  
or is this the second act  
before the curtain falls.  
Am I going to be  
what I see today  
or will I let  
my past experiences  
drag me down.  
Names arranged  
so differently  
love comes and goes.  
Up and down  
waves surpass  
my inner self  
taking me for a ride;  
up and I continue to know  
who I am,  
a mental impression  
of the whole,  
or down,  
losing site  
no clear vision,  
scattered directions  
no where to go.*



*What do I know  
about the other side  
of the wall.  
Will it be me  
who opens the curtain  
and lets the light in.*



## **SOMETHING SHARED**

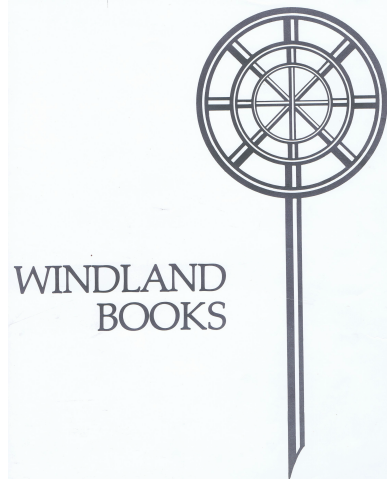
*All that we see  
through our eyes,  
sailing the seas  
seeing the sunrise  
fill the sky.*

*All that we need,  
is to never be afraid,  
is to never be ashamed,  
is to never let someone  
bring us down.*

*All of the things  
that we enjoy,  
is ours to play with,  
a giant toy  
that we can roll  
down the road.*

*All of the light  
that goes shining through,  
has not reached you,  
it will be there soon  
for your eyes to see.*

*All of the time  
floating above the ground,  
far from the touch of my hand  
as I reach for you.*



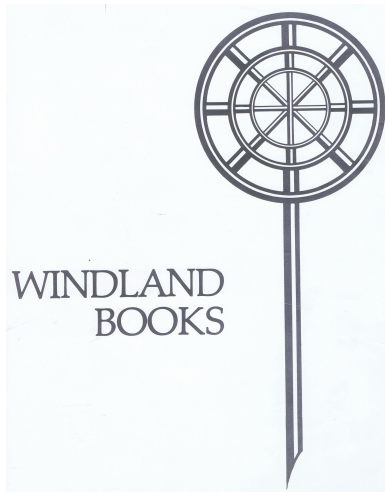
## ***THE EDGE***

*A pendulum  
swinging  
from one extreme  
to the other.*

*A center line  
followed only by  
those who where not  
overtaken by the edge.*

*A friend  
so overcome  
by an idea,  
so frightened of what  
she does not know,  
looked back  
and fell from the edge.*

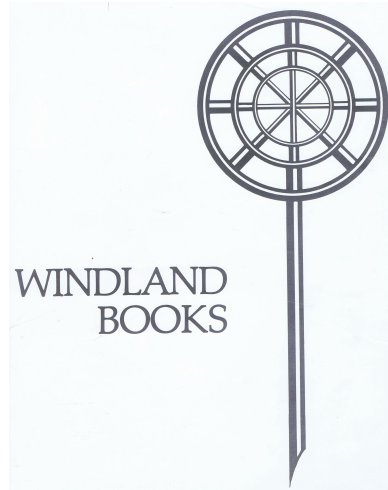
*Unable to recover,  
unable to walk,  
trying desperately  
to regain her balance,  
on the edge.*





## ***NOTES***

*Dreams on a wing.  
The silence,  
surpassed by the movements  
yet unseen.  
Underlined words,  
expressions  
that are not clear.  
Phrases that are  
rearranged to rhyme  
and don't.  
Worthless scribbles  
sheltering confusion.  
Ideas covered  
by another page,  
unable to transcend  
through the lines  
and never  
coming to view.  
Moments unrecorded,  
lost in time.  
Unexplained feelings  
regress to nothing.  
The loneliness of notes.*



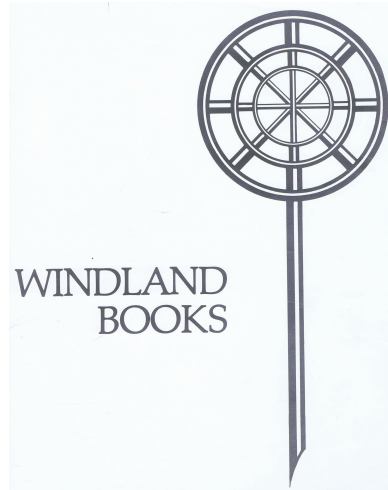
## ***THE TREE***

*Shadows,  
streaming lights,  
that do no justice  
to the image there.*

*Colors reflected  
on individual pieces,  
divided by lines,  
showing halos  
on her hair.*

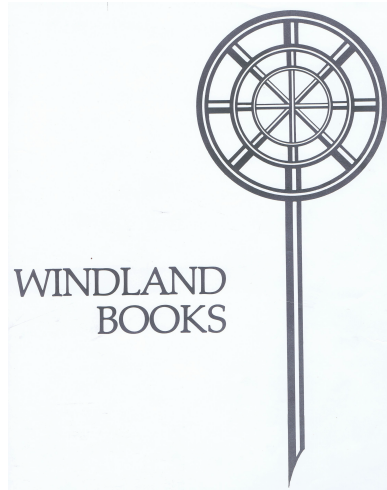
*A borderless picture  
that is shown to me  
as I rest beside her.*

*A growing expectation  
of feelings,  
that show me a piece  
of the picture,  
a portion of the whole  
that I wish to know.*



## **COMMUNIQUE**

*Something  
inside of me  
reach's out to you,  
we've got to try  
to communicate,  
or have we lost  
that too.  
There all the feelings  
we can share,  
feel the freedom  
in the air.  
There must be time  
for us to talk,  
if not,  
then have we lost  
the time to learn too.  
If we can't tell  
what's going on  
around us,  
then our world will fall,  
and there will be no picture,  
to gaze at anymore.*

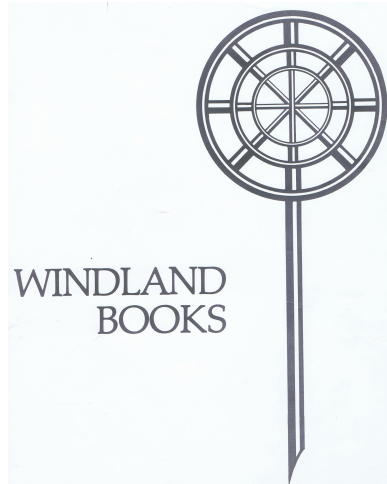


## ***THIS SUNLIT ROOM***

*This sunlit room  
has longed  
to be discovered,  
the many  
darkened closets  
that have not been  
opened for years  
awaits you know.*

*This sunlit room  
shared with no other,  
spiritless,  
susceptible,  
to your touch,  
has long been  
waiting for your key  
to unlock  
the intense energy there.*

*This sunlit room  
since grown  
and evolving,  
building,  
preparing for your love,  
welcomes this moment  
with you,  
and shares with you  
all there is to know.*



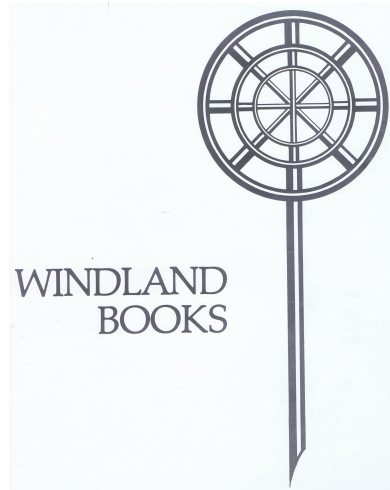
## ***FOREVER***

*Forever  
I share with you  
my moments of joy  
and time of sorrow.*

*Forever  
I have opened  
myself to you  
through the door  
of tomorrow.*

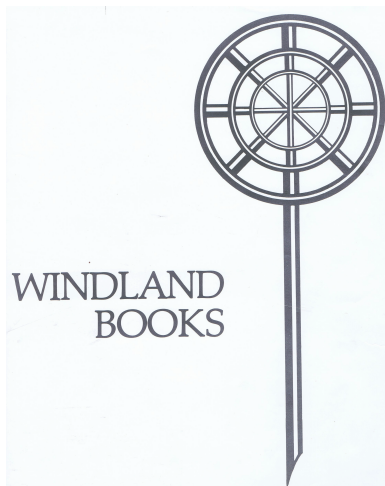
*Forever  
I can not hide  
the forces  
that move me  
by your stillness.*

*Forever  
I can no longer  
explain  
the rhythms  
of my inner self.*

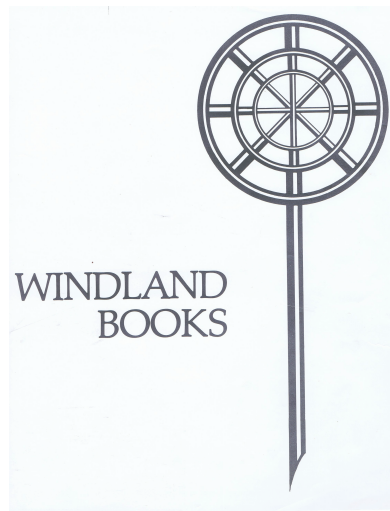


## **WHAT COULD BE LOVE**

*I never want  
to leave  
an empty place  
in your heart,  
I don't know  
how I feel to you  
when we are apart.  
I don't know what  
to say to you,  
now that  
the light has gone,  
I'm not sure  
how to play your song.  
I did not want  
to fall in love again,  
it was the last thing  
from my mind.  
I just wanted to  
be close to you  
in what seems  
so little time.  
I cannot let  
this feeling go,  
untouched by the one  
who has left it so.  
I could be wrong  
but didn't you  
once care for me,  
I can handle  
the truth you see.*



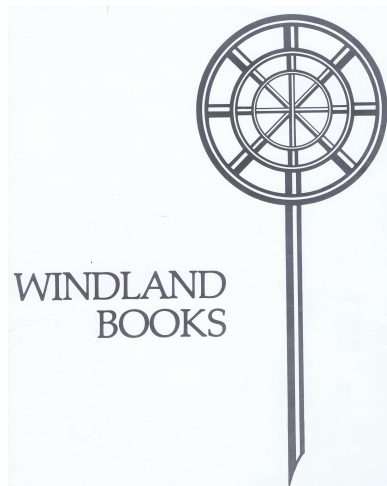
*I hope that you  
are not afraid,  
of what I said  
and the games  
I've played.  
What could be love  
to one,  
could be to another  
a masquerade.*



## ***FALLING IN LOVE***

*The confusion  
inside of me,  
makes me hurt  
inwardly.*

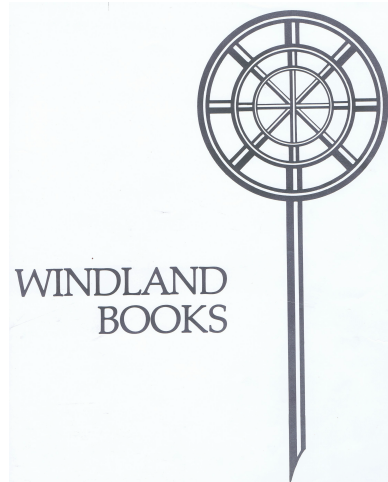
*I don't know  
how to explain,  
what I feel  
I'm so afraid,  
so confused,  
I don't know  
where forever  
begins or ends.  
So disillusioned,  
running into wall  
after wall,  
hurting so much,  
I'm falling  
falling in,  
theres no end  
no end, no time  
to begin  
no time to explain  
I'm falling in.*





***STILL THE SAME***

*I've grown,  
I've changed,  
still the years  
seems so strange.  
The trees have gone,  
the flowers  
have fallen away.  
My eyes no longer cry,  
yet the same song  
is played.  
The tears have gone away  
the seas are here to stay,  
yet I'm afraid,  
still afraid of you.  
The crystal shines  
the light so high,  
am I here with you.  
Where are you  
when the light is gone,  
where are you  
at the end of the song.  
And we have grown  
and we have changed,  
and still we're the same.*



## ***A HEART***

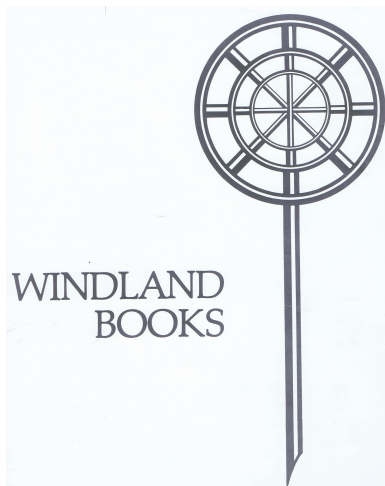
*A bird  
flutters past,  
searching for cover,  
leaves me bare  
with no time to suffer.*

*A wave  
erodes a wall,  
uncovering  
a trickle of me,  
buried beneath  
a stone obelisk.*

*A beam  
supporting  
the limits  
of the picture  
and binding it,  
contains me.*

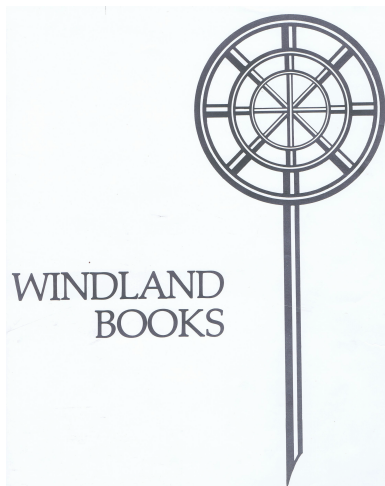
*A crystal  
pure,  
with white light  
enters a facet,  
creates a rainbow  
and expands me.*

*A heart  
beating to what  
it thought was growth,  
was stopped  
by another's careless words.*

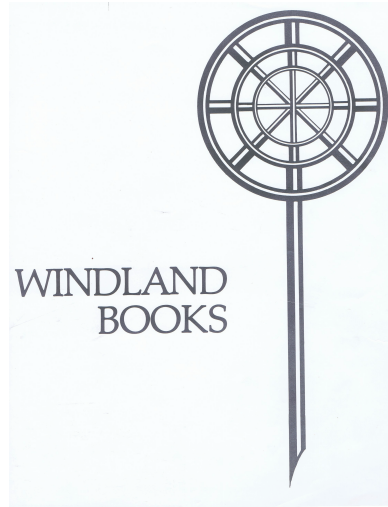


## ***I SHALL NOT WHISPER***

*Time went by so slowly  
as I waited for you.  
I could hear  
the music faintly  
as I envisioned you.  
Nothing other than wonder  
your heartless ideas  
surrender like  
the thunder  
of another's love  
descending.  
A sounding board  
I've been used,  
for all those  
who waste more,  
an emotion cripples  
the beautiful rainbow,  
shining ever so.  
I've counted  
your youthfulness  
in ways I cannot disclose,  
and yet you feel so distant  
and not so close.  
Absent from your company,  
I feel not warmth  
but the breaking of the stone,  
I have taken in  
as my cover, my home.  
I shall not whisper  
as the wind,*



*I shall overcome  
the whims of possession.  
I can not be overtaken  
by the frozen rain,  
but I the stone  
can be broken  
by the hammer and chisel,  
engraved with your name.*



## ***SCREAMS***

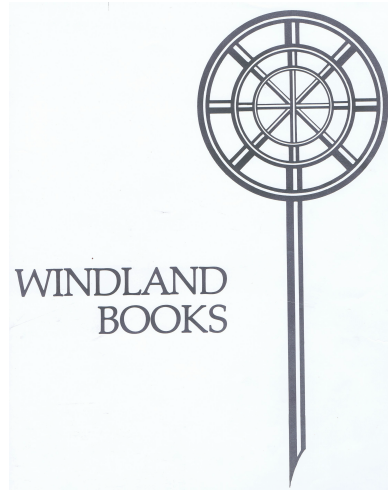
*Something  
inside of me,  
screams,  
cries for love,  
for understanding.  
Silent screams  
of passion,  
of despair.  
Hidden screams,  
so silent  
an expression,  
that I do not  
let you see,  
something  
inside of me.*



## ***SCREAMS II***

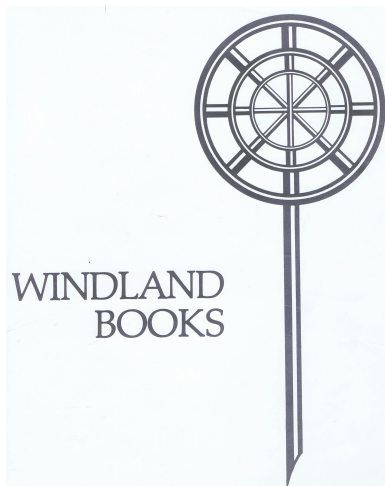
*Hidden passion  
awaits your cries,  
possession of love  
has since passed me by.*

*Riches  
not long forgotten,  
hang openly  
for all those to see.  
Screams of anger  
of hurt and fear,  
all these things  
shown to me,  
through a single tear.*



## *ATTEMPT*

*The night has gone,  
so dry and restless,  
the ground so cool  
and yet  
less than a moment ago  
you were inside of me.  
Its funny  
how the light changes us,  
showing us what we  
refused to believe,  
something we become  
afraid of,  
when confronted with the truth.  
I too wish  
not to be hurt,  
then again  
it's so easy to be afraid  
of something  
you love and care for.  
I've tried to be  
so open,  
that instead,  
I've caused a wall  
to come between us.  
I like the touch  
of your hand,  
but its so hard  
to feel something  
that is not there,  
so many times I've tried  
and all I touch is air.*



## ***FELL TO EARTH***

*Restless and sore,  
tired and weak,  
I move into the shadows,  
watching streams of light  
move by me.*

*As I walk down  
the stairs,  
or maybe it's up,  
sometimes its  
hard to tell*

*when you stumble  
on yourself.*

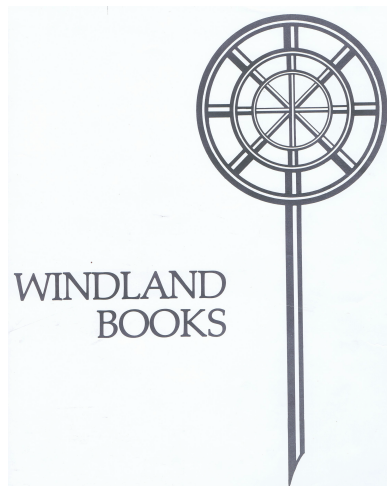
*I noticed  
you were not there  
to catch me,*

*I took for granted  
you would.*

*So I kept stumbling  
till I hit*

*what I thought was bottom.*

*Picking myself up,  
my vision blurred,  
unable to see  
my next step,  
I fell to earth.*





## ***INTO THE NIGHT***

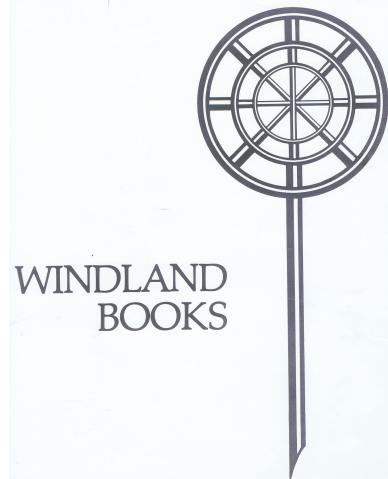
*Into the night,  
I share not with you  
the pain of my heart,  
but my soul.*

*The selfishness  
you threw to me,  
only caused me to remember  
the years I've experienced  
no free love,  
but the love bounded  
by emotional attachments.*

*Into the night,  
as I lay asleep,  
pretending not to hear,  
I shattered the image  
I once held of you.*

*I would have not known,  
the things I've occupied  
with my own selfishness.*

*Into the night  
a restless sleep,  
I refused to believe  
that you would not  
let me see  
a whole you,  
and my own blindness  
let me fall into being  
driven by you,  
when you cannot  
drive yourself.*



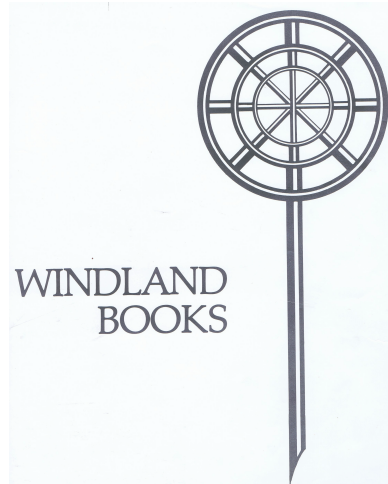
## ***PATCHES***

*Digging my way  
through my closet,  
I found a memory,  
one full of holes  
of which I cannot patch;  
So many holes  
that I could  
strain my feelings  
through them.*

*I tried covering  
them with a blanket,  
but this did not stay long.  
Then I tried colored ones,  
they too soon left.*

*I tried so hard  
to color and cover them,  
but each time I did;  
the event that put them  
there in the first place,  
made them reappear.*

*I guess it takes  
more than just  
the thought of your love  
to patch my heart.*



## *C# MINOR*

*Minor events  
slow the process  
that I must  
run through.  
Minor squabbles  
have always  
kept the easy  
things from me.  
Minor images  
seem to faint,  
that I sometime  
wonder who put  
them there.  
Minor ideas  
become lost  
in my attempt  
to make something big  
from something small.  
Minor obstacles  
block my path  
or expression  
as I try  
to understand you.  
Minor emotions  
turn big  
as I try  
to communicate  
my feelings to you.  
Minor things  
keep me from saying  
I love you.*

*Published in: American Poetry Anthology Fall/Winter 1984*

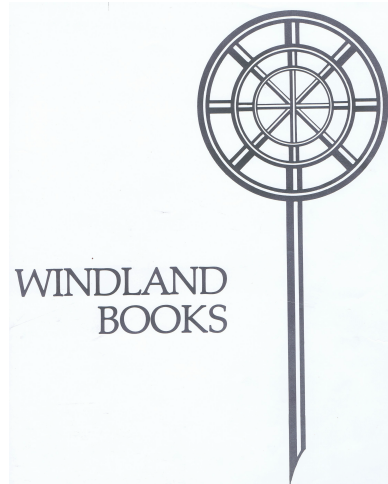


## ***LOVE; LONELINESS***

*Do you feel it  
inside of you,  
do you sense  
it being there,  
are you aware  
of its presence,  
do you comprehend  
the implications  
of its being,  
can you handle  
the outcome.*

*Are you able  
to accept what it is,  
are you above  
what it is,  
can you say  
it will not touch you,  
will you survive  
its grasp,  
can you overcome it.*

*Do you look at it  
as a tool,  
can you change  
its feeling,  
can you use it  
to pull you through.*



## ***TO A FRIEND***

*Sometimes I may not  
always seem pleased,  
I may not always  
say I care.*

*Sometimes I become  
lost within myself,  
Lost within another world.*

*Sometimes I refuse  
to believe your honesty,  
to believe your sincerity.*

*Sometimes I lose  
myself as I become angry,  
not at you  
but myself.*

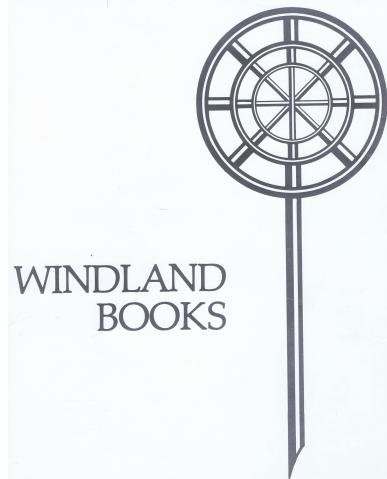
*Sometimes I'm so set  
in the way I live,  
I stumble over  
my own words,*

*over my own expressions.*

*Sometimes I find it hard  
to share as others do,  
as someone else might speak.*

*Sometimes I try so hard  
to be close to you,  
to be touched by you.*

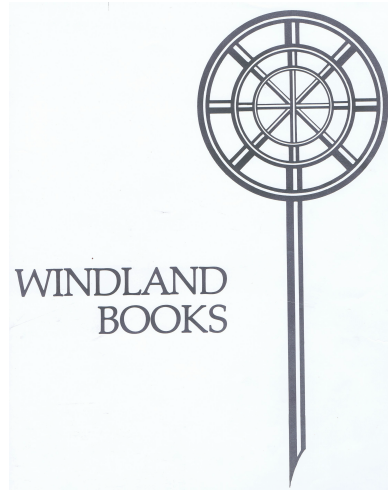
*Sometimes I hurt  
as I feel I've failed.*



## ***IDEAS***

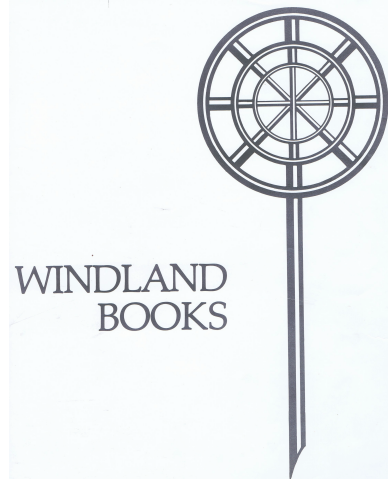
*Ideas  
don't always  
come from within.  
Sometimes they are  
shown to us  
from our surroundings.  
Sometimes they are  
told to us by another.  
Sometimes we hear  
them from a song.  
Sometimes we can  
touch them.*

*Ideas  
don't always  
come from within  
just the feeling  
they bring.*

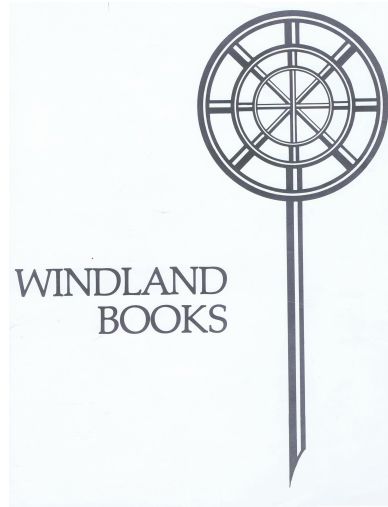


## ***LOVE WHAT IS WITHIN***

*I've awoken  
the sleepy giant  
within me,  
a play of ideals  
against emotions,  
a fight between  
the material  
and the spiritual,  
a raging explosion  
of unwanted memories,  
that unsatisfied  
feeling of pain.  
I've taken the reality  
that surrounds me,  
a game of  
unorganized rules,  
a play of words  
not acts,  
a feared expression  
of darkness,  
that continues  
to follow me.  
I've taken  
the security  
that is me,  
building upon it  
with walls,  
covering it with light  
keeping it open.  
I've made touching  
my heart hard,*



*so only those  
who struggle to see,  
those who must climb  
the wall,  
those who will try  
to love what is within.*





## ***IMAGE OF ANOTHER***

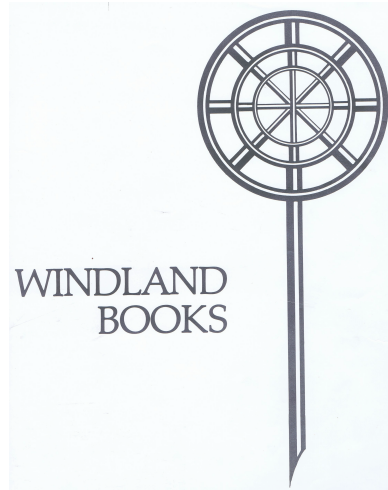
*Its not you  
who makes me feel  
so alone  
when you laugh with others.*

*Its not you  
who makes me feel  
so rejected  
when you play with another.*

*Its not you  
who takes my emotions  
for a ride  
and shakes me.*

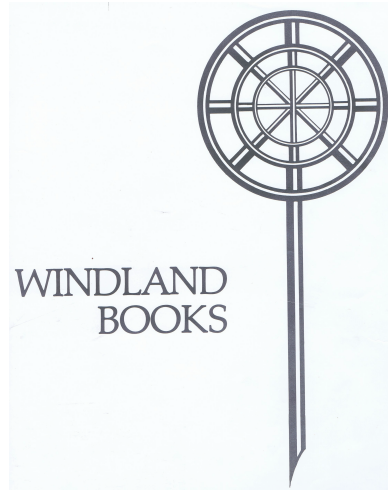
*Its not you  
who I've felt  
so helpless around  
when I cannot see me.*

*Its just an image  
of another,  
you've reminded me of  
that has caused such pain.*



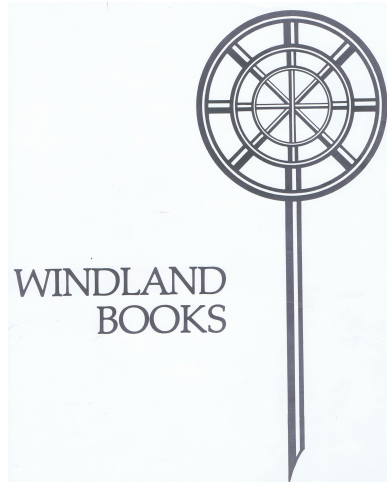
## ***NONSENSE***

*Listen to the quiet,  
no breeze moving things,  
no movement  
nothing disturbed.  
Feel the silence,  
touch against you,  
pressing,  
holding you in  
an ocean of air.  
See the emptiness  
so clear,  
so little color,  
no dimension.  
Taste the staleness  
no flavor to enjoy,  
no variety,  
no appetite.  
Smell the air  
no odor to dislike,  
no scent to enjoy,  
no stimulation  
or distinction.*



## ***ISOLATION***

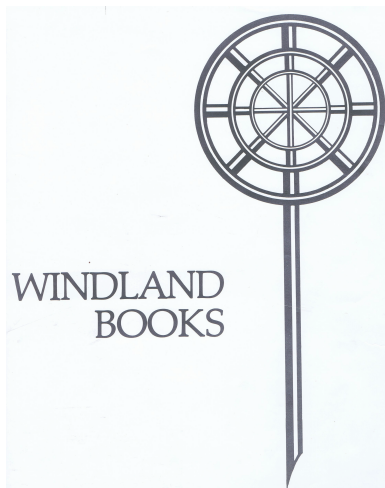
*I've seen you today  
struggling,  
trying so hard  
to show them  
how good you are.  
I've seen you when  
you walked away  
discouraged  
when they did not respond  
to your statements.  
I've seen your intentions  
trying so desperately  
to communicate  
through your stone wall.  
I've seen how hard  
you try to break through,  
using your rubber hammer  
not even scratching  
the surface.  
I've seen you today  
struggling,  
trying so hard  
to knock down the wall  
you built for protection.  
I've seen you isolate  
all you have to share,  
and giving into their game  
by hiding the word.*



## ***FRAGMENTS OF LIFE***

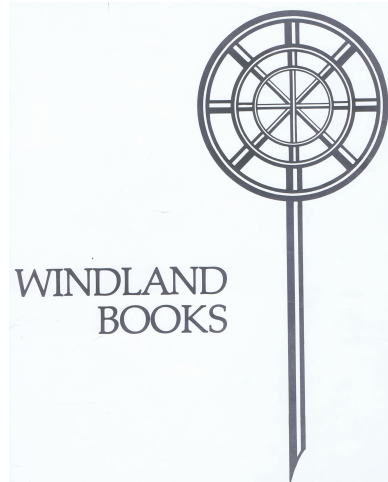
*Pieces of a puzzle  
cuts and shapes  
I cannot recognize,  
the colors are familiar,  
though they blend  
together so well,  
I had to cut  
and reshape each  
to fit.*

*I made one picture,  
one with holes  
with fragments of life  
passing through them,  
with fragments of light  
shattered like a crystal,  
with fragments of night  
to conceal them.*



## ***THE DARK***

*I can laugh  
at myself  
for being  
so afraid  
of the dark.  
I can laugh  
at the way  
I jump, when  
I hear a noise.  
I can laugh  
as the shadows  
I see moving  
around the trees,  
I can laugh  
at the dog  
who runs  
behind me.  
I can laugh  
at the wind  
as it pushes  
the trees  
making them fall.  
I can laugh  
at the lights  
making shadows  
against a wall.  
I can laugh  
when I hear  
the dog bark.  
I can laugh  
at the Idea  
there is something  
in the dark.*



## ***FIRST LOVE***

*I did not  
have to follow you  
through the journey  
seeking the truth.*

*I didn't have  
to watch you  
change the color  
of your inner self.*

*I did not have  
to listen to you,  
telling me words  
ideas so different  
to my own.*

*I did not have  
to open myself to you,  
I could have stayed  
in my world  
of painted shells.*

*I did not need  
all those changes  
but your caring for me.*

*I did not need  
all those new ways of life  
just you touching me.*

*I did not need to see so many things  
just your eyes  
looking at me.*

*I did not need  
so much,  
just your love.*



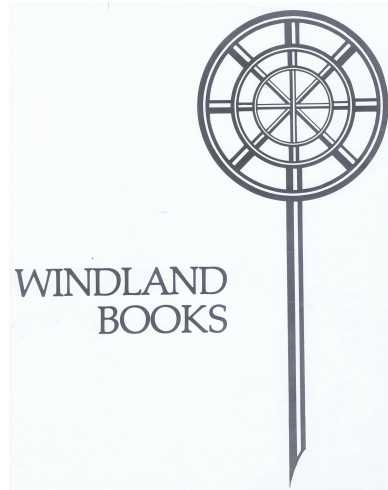
## ***I CAN***

*I can  
eat my own words  
the ones  
I've shared  
with you.*

*I can  
say I've practiced  
what I've  
preached too.*

*I can  
even say I've seen  
myself differently  
than I did yesterday.*

*I cannot say  
I've done it all  
and that I would  
not have to speak  
my own word again.*



## ***NIGHT WALK***

*I traveled a road once,  
at times it seemed  
I was all alone  
walking in solitude.*

*I was not lost  
its just  
I had forgotten  
from which direction  
I came.*

*You should have seen  
the panic come over me,  
you would have to look  
quickly though,  
as it only  
lasted a second;  
it took longer  
to regroup my thoughts  
to reassure myself  
I was ok.*

*I came across a box  
containing a compass,  
though I did not  
understand the symbols.*

*A feeling of security  
came over me;  
as I looked in  
the direction  
of the needle,  
and saw my bed  
with me sleeping  
peacefully on it.*

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