

OUR LEFT EYE by William Carleton

AUTHOR'S NOTE: *Words from a Distance* is a collection of poems written by William Vincent Carleton over the course of the past year, mostly during phone calls with his children via WhatsApp messenger. He started typing the stories they shared over the phone, recording them via a Smith-Corona mechanical typewriter from the 1950s, showing the pages to them afterward, and they thought it was magic. Soon after that, George Sellas started bringing the poems to life through illustration.

In the piece selected by Fleas on the Dog entitled *Our Left Eye*--the intention was to express the emotions that come from longing, and how domestic animals share a synchronistic relationship with their guardians. This was the feeling William had when he wrote the poem, thinking of his children and their love for animals—and it would lead to him thinking about the long road he has traveled to be reunited with them. And it's finally happening, with his return to Mexico on October 1st. This is part of the reason why this Kickstarter campaign is so crucial, as it will allow the completion and publication of this illustrated poetry book and establish William as a full-time writer in Mexico.

William's reading diet often consists of a combination of Jack Kerouac, H.P. Lovecraft, John O'Donohue, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, Stephen King and Walt Whitman.

William says if he didn't write, the world would gladly shut him up, and so it would be silly for him to be doing anything else. He writes because he selfishly wants his children to remember him as the person he was in the present moment; excavating pieces buried in his mind. With these examples, his children can develop their own imaginations, characters and style, and become so much greater than anything he could aspire to be. He believes this is the truest role of any parent.

BIO: William Vincent Carleton is a 41-year old divorced father who has faced numerous challenges within the international family legal system in order to establish regular contact with his children. Much of what he writes about has to do with the father-child reunion. He is the author of *The Tortuga Triangle* which has also been translated into Spanish. William plans to release additional novels over the course of the next year, mainly in the realm of Science Fiction, and writes exclusively on a Smith-Corona Clipper mechanical typewriter from the 1950's on Southworth archive-quality paper.