



POSTCARD SHORTS + 2

By

Roger Singer

WHY I LIKE IT: *Poetry Editor HEZEKIAH writes...ahhh...what do you do with a past Poet Laureate of Connecticut, when you are a lowly editor. Bars are forever being raised and lowered...opened and closed. Singer is striking and has those stinging one-line zingers (so sad to be praised by ancient baseball slang; informal, swing-and-miss cant). In 'WATCHING THE ASHES,' "sun dips / moon winks / overhead / stars align...spirit breaths, / sparks and smoke... greater than / the flames / testing us" That is enough. 'THE FACE OF US,' "a star appears...as seasons / push past...as we gather / at the altar / of our / years." 'POSTCARD STORIES,' "bright sorrows / soft laughter / seasons discarded...discovering loss / setting sun / the circle ends" You don't have to read between the lines, it's all there. Who could resist the word-picture pairings, energy and imagery of Roger Singer?*

WATCHING THE ASHES

sun dips
moon winks

overhead
stars align

here we are
spirit breaths,
sparks and smoke

placing
our hopes
on paper,
setting them
on fire

knowing
the promises
we keep are
greater than
the flames
testing us

THE FACE OF US

a star appears

like a shoulder
of silence
as seasons
push past
the sand
and water
of our
imperfections
as we gather
at the altar
of our
years

POSTCARD STORIES

broken skin
chains linked
half words
half shadows
faint farewells
angry chatter
guilt and truth
recaptured memory
ghosts and storms
paths to roads
bright sorrows
soft laughter
seasons discarded
partial escape
ashes raining
discovering loss
setting sun
the circle ends

THE POET SPEAKS:

When I ask my students, "what is poetry"? i receive a number of responses. but in reality, there all right. Everything is touched by poetry and in turn teaches us poetry. My poems come from a voice within. Sometimes it's easy for the words to settle into place. At other times, the words sit on the paper, until I reshape, creating a brief yet descriptive poem.

To me, poetry is like abstract painting...there are no commas or periods.

AUTHOR BIO: Dr. Singer has had over 1,200 poems published on the internet, magazines and in books and is a Pushcart Award Nominee. Some of the magazines that have accepted his poems for publication are: Westward Quarterly, Jerry Jazz, SP Quill, Avocet, Underground Voices, Outlaw Poetry, Literary Fever, Dance of my Hands, Language & Culture, The Stray Branch, Tipton Poetry Indigo Rising, Down in the Dirt, Fullosia Press, Orbis, Penwood Review, Subtle Tea, Ambassador Poetry Award, Massachusetts State Poetry Society. Louisiana State Poetry Society Award. Readers Award Orbis Magazine 2019. Arizona State Poetry Award 2020. Mad Swirl Anthology 2018, 2019.