

Man, As He Really Is and more

by Changming Yuan (November 2017)



The Shadow, Pablo Picasso, 1953

Man, As He Really Is

Is far beyond God's imagination

Let alone understanding

If you really love Earth, you wouldn't be

Afraid to show it to the world, let alone her

Most websites don't even last fourteen

Months, let alone fourteen years

They never thought they'd be able to do
Any serious reading, let alone thinking
Some people can't help inventing lies
Let alone telling them
The sun shines on you but not on me
Let alone my shadow
I always expect the world to leave me
Alone, let alone my poetry

Close Up

Trees everywhere
On each road, in every yard
But only far, and farther away
In a virgin forest can you hear
The songs from a tree's ringed heart
In the shiny shape of a woman
Sitting close to your chest and
Throat, with all the green spirits
Set free from the carved cleft holes
Resonating in a foreign land

Vancouver. Credits include 12 Pushcart nominations for poetry and 2 for fiction besides appearances in *Best of the Best Canadian Poetry* (2008-17), *BestNewPoemsOnline* and 2019 other literary outlets worldwide. A poetry judge for Canada's 2021 National Magazine Awards, Yuan began writing and publishing fiction in 2022.

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