

Two Voices: Amalgamated Dreams
Haiku

William B. Meloney VII



Dedicated to

William B. Meloney VI

Joan Lee Graham Meloney Gleason

James Peter Meloney

Alan "Chris" and Rosemary Christensen

And my loving wife
Beverly Ann Meloney
Editor Extraordinaire

For my children

Rosemary Elizabeth

Sean Catherine

William Brown (VIII)

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(Mostly in chronological order)

American Zen

17 In form only *

1 Just is silly **

Forward: Two Voices

Two Voices, is the mystique of this collection. Two Voices is the dance I don't do. Two Voices is the magic I don't do. Two Voices symbolizes the relationship between my writing and your reading. I "speak" with my one voice and you "hear" with a second voice, your own. So we collaborate. Much of the content that you will find in my work is not there in my voice. You will paint the picture. You will hear the music. You will write the poetry. I have written these pieces. They will not be rewritten - so I can say that I don't dance. I have imparted meaning to these collections of words. Yet the value comes from you reading them - so I don't do magic.

Seldom if ever do we hear just one voice in our world. More often than not we are subject to barrages of voices all speaking at the same time - and then there are our internal voices offering continuous commentary. Many of these pieces are an attempt to capture in some small measure that multi-dimensionality of voices. Or at least two.

HAIKU

wood smoke in the wind
Raku blossoms with the fire
shoulder to shoulder

cold silence stands lone
this months bills lean on a vase
two dried wild flowers

new lost youth looking
seeds turn to sprouts emerging
wild Iris blooms late

crimson leaf turns slow
wind's cold thrust pulls at branches
huddled for our warmth

frail flower received
with Orion's first emergence
jewels in night skies

Red Oak leaves rattle
approaching winter tempest
low sun crimson sky

last snow sails chinook
unexpected white belies
my desire for spring

thirteen geese fly north
heralding crocus blossom
turn slow walk away

sailing unknown seas
fallen leaf dances aloft
spring splendor music

cherry blossoms wilt
lightning quickening the sky
roads beckon beyond

soft blood rose fears not
petals turn slow fall away
spring they bloom again

gulls have taken flight
grand oaks feel the sawyer's blade
new snow drifts the path

even a pallid
day shines benignly in a
yellow blue iris

a small cup once thrown
away brings great joy to a
struggling poet *

above clouds and rain
sunshine fills eternal skies
one tender mist kiss

threefold the maple
brings sunshine warm through soft rain
to our waking dreams

fireworks lacing night
skies celebrate the sudden
day lily blooming

rain wet cold earth night
failing full moon laughs amid
new pussy willows

swollen with spring rain
winter solstice remnants wane
rivers run anew

cold sunshine leaves me
walking across winter's last
grasp facade alone

milkweed silhouette
soft seed down drifting across
pristine powder drifts

March 6, 2003

last frost lace clinging
against the season turning
spring peepers singing

winter's last dry wind
slants occasional snow flakes
Crocus shoots stirring

July 3, 2003

Remembering Alan "Chris" Christensen

summer clattering
two geese rise together
above mirror lake

conical Morel
capped elf dancing merrily
she was just right here

cold dark water runs
turning over tumbling
shy brook trout smiles

Remembrance of James Peter Meloney

two loaves of fresh bread
give them both away and ask
what price the new rose *

deep throated thunder
tumbles cold across first green
lightning dances hot

August 17, 2003

hummingbird down beats
oak leaves give up last night's rain
autumn ascending

fresh roasted coffee
too hot to take the first sip
tiger lilies blare

afternoon rain pours
sitting back to back reading
purple Iris bloom

April 18, 2006

planting oak saplings
last frost clinging to shadows
tea bowl warm in hand

Anagama fire
consumes last year's storm down trees
painting slight tea bowls

first steady cold rain
washes green the sleeping fields
day lilies cover

cold sunshine offers
distant summer promises
of warm velvet nights

your empty tea cup
shards lay scattered at me feet
did not spill a drop *

shards of an empty cup
lay scattered at my bare feet
I will drink from it *

August 2, 2006

fishing yesterday
sly trout stripping all my bait
hungry tomorrow

baby bunny dives
into overgrown garden
cool shade with fresh lunch

Red Tail runs around
Norway spruce skirts then dives in
sparrows scattering

pastel orange sun
melting bone gray summer sky
breaking dawns silence

curious kitten
tries to touch a reflection
of the autumn moon

autumn morning sun
I have been writing too many
obituaries

October 14, 2006

early killing frost
condescending outdoor cat
will accept my lap

November 5, 2006

bone gray cutting rain
strips away fierce white hearth heat
tears washing my face

January 28, 2007

early Daffodils
renewed by receding snows
thawing ice stream flows

May 9, 2007

wet warm clouds hang close
blanket white blushing bride at
her second wedding

May 27, 2007

came a boy walking
Saint George slaying fierce dragons
a man strode away *

September 17, 2007

cold shoulder morning
winter wrestles throwing fall
sunshine breaks the hold

dawn's darkness threatens
promises of midday rain
sunshine afternoon

geese speaking from flight
dusk migrating to darkness
southern promises

soft cold rain declares
the turn of summer's last song
split oak embers dance

May 02, 2008

gray light dawn window
closed against last night's rain wind
strain to hear the birds

May 04, 2008

filled the bird feeders
and not a moment too soon
flying pigs return *

May 05, 2008

politicians speak
eloquent promises made
we hear rushing wind *

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April 12, 2008

starlings too big for
the feeder scattering seed
to sparrows below

April 13, 2008

tucked into wheel wells
perched on dry all terrain tires
sparrows watch the rain

April 15, 2008

teacher before a
final blackboard dreaming of
eureka moments *

April 16, 2008

in age delicate
first flowers open slowly
something must be done

April 17, 2008

choir dogs sing nightly
staccato counterpoint to
coyote solos

April 18, 2008

earthquake threw us out
doors shivering to discover
Spring blood on the moon

April 19, 2008

twilight softens long
journeys through course busy days
letting out a star

14

April 20, 2008

cricket celebrates
sings of daring escape from
tarantula's cage *

April 21, 2008

promise turns beneath
plow then harrow preparing
earth for seed returned

April 22, 2008

exquisite bare feet
on morning dew cold flagstones
coffee cup embraced

April 23, 2008

sitting statue still
too close to your thistle seed
one fearless finch feeds

April 24, 2008

grass covered two track
leads deep into twice cut woods
we walk holding hands

April 25, 2008

curious fingers
swirling the pollen mist from
Japanese Black pines

April 26, 2008

when children are old
flowering dogwood planted
today will blossom

15

April 29, 2008

reading popcorn poems
satisfying salt crunch but
soon you must haiku **

December 25, 2008

frozen grass crumbles
beneath bare feet going to
refill the feeders

December 06, 2015

frosty breakfast table
arpeggio arias
jays trio solos

March 08, 2009

waiting patiently
first daffodils hold their blooms
until I notice

March 07, 2019

facing frozen wind
daffodils bow solemnly
having bloomed too soon

March 08, 2019

among the rafters
sparrows huddle chattering
ignoring cold rain

March 11, 2019

rain laden skies
cannot dim the promise of
tree's golden aura

16

March 12, 2019

this is the last frost
upon Winter's aged back
until tomorrow

April 23, 2019

White Pines dance slowly
pushing all others off the
needle shag carpet

April 30, 2019

alone together
we walked on mole soft earth to
observe iris buds

May 01, 2019

ignoring people
two yearling deer continue
grazing in shadows

little turtle looks
carefully before racing
into a grass field

fighting off the wind
denying winter's embrace
red oak leaves rustling

comfortable sleep
rises up to meet weary
long days labor aches *

sliver of sunlight
slipped under overcast skies
faint vernal promise

slight dusting of snow
silhouette shadow remains
reveal sparrow tracks

Cooper hawk soaring
upset crow takes deference
aerial ballet

so slowly turning
sunflower dispenser shows
one bright cardinal

wet stone cold morning
held tight against the promise
of a pale peach sky

Nuthatch looks both ways
steals a peanut from the dish
then returns with joy

after cold cutting rain
stand by the welcoming hearth
new bread and butter

winter mouse enjoys
live trap hospitality
refuses to leave

universe of stars
reflected under bare feet
wave washed grains of sand

two geese then three more
winging away from our pond
stepped in it again

bare feet on soft snow
wet prints across smooth concrete
warm dry cotton socks

horizon broken
night promises relinquished
sliver of the sun

day's first fury light
raging fire one ridge beyond
just grace dawn's grandeur

add to the promise
of cold soaking morning rain
lingering warm sigh

Daffodils believed
winter's sunshine balmy breeze
new shoots will wear snow

at the river bank
deep water running blood red
time passes slowly *

snow lace whispering
alluring glimpse giving rise
melts a tear to cheek

the songs of my heart
are the music of my dreams
may I sleep soundly *

sunny sixty five
global warming is a myth
just now February

agitated state
unbalanced energy swirls
trying not to hide *

the very first time
traversing smooth stone cascade
ancient stream waters

mirror reflections
show on the illusion
of the hidden heart *

lichen paints a face
quartz streams cut a mountain trace
moss beds form a base

oranges bringing
sunshine to frost promises
bright across my tongue

amazed as a boy
each sitting still a chipmunk
accepts a peanut

slept in all winter
her natty fur coat stretched thin
gaunt rabbit visits

trampled dandelion
leaves mud covered half hidden
small yellow jewel

Mockingbird has learned
the suet feeder swivel
still sings other's songs

in the first un-light
earthen negative outline
where rabbit is not

leafless oak lace limbs
await warm sustenance
intricate sky roots

spring cuddling near
percale sirocco twilight
still lone bier winter

raucous Blue Jay calls
sound and fury signify
raucous Blue Jay calls

pacific northwest
winter rain offers no grace
here in Kentucky

over cast sky light
found in the wake of my dreams
five more minutes please *

against stark contrast
ethereal suggestion
new buds vague green haze

only a moment
sleepless night midday nodding
dreams seep through closed eyes *

standing toe to toe
old men with fire in their eyes
Daffodils laughing

lion breath wind roars
thunderheads howl in darkness
dawn gambols bleating

comfortable chairs
sitting quietly before
smoldering embers

cold sunshine filters
cross concrete through steel trees
warms hardwood forests

Red Oaks are humming
the song Dog Woods are singing
Crabapple trees shout

deafening silence
across concrete sidewalks leaves
tumble rustling

reoccurring dreams
sing the same songs all night long
mockingbird who knew

Brown Thrasher dashing
snapping suet crumbs from sloppy
Yellow Belly's feast

Goldfinches dancing
heated airborne posturing
over thistle seed

Jays stealing peanuts
nervous petulant children
run away to gloat

got so much work done
enjoying this vacation
Je suis fatigue *

hummingbird sits dry
feeder hung beneath the eaves
thunderstorm rages

groundhog ate the leaves
left the sunflower blossoms
perhaps for dessert

ain't no sunflowers
only darkness will remain
he came for dessert

winter full moon slides
up behind horizon tree lace
almost giving warmth

Norwegian spruce lifts
the hem of their skirts waiting
for spring's first cool rain

on the porch railing
sharing sunflower treats
Cardinals kissing

Daffodils shining
thought first cold cutting gray rain
from overcast skies

haphazardly strewn
empty Robin eggshells give
no clue to the nest

a fallen peanut
four Blue Jays swoop down intent
three leave complaining

frantic ewe pacing
outside the fence a stray lamb
follows back and forth

half moon at midday
ethereal presence hangs
aloof between trees

For Rosemary

verdant skies beckon
thunderstorms in the distance
dry leaves scattering

pristine empty sky
azure turning evening chill
horizon ablaze

flowing mauve shadows
clings fast to early evening's
approaching silence

soft winds sing gently
across moss studded forest
walking thankfully

paused to examine
rubbed bark, perhaps a young buck
found this year's new pine

late night visitors
extracted whole peanut teeth
empty pumpkin's smile

dry brown crackling
wading through puddles of leaves
we all were younger

Red Tail looming large
empty branches do not hide
Blue Jays complaining

horizon sunshine dawning
streaming through frosted windows
fades behind low clouds

quiet company
before the hearth sitting close
frosted boughs sleep

cold sunshine streaming
relentless wind cutting quick
oak leaves do not fall

bare feet cat walking
tip toe across the long beach
first sudden cold wave

lavender dawning
promises of wind and rain
sage will soon blossom

Chickadee flurries
swirling over sunflower face
each wanting a turn

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