
GARY L. ENTSMINGER

The Fool on the Hill

The fine writers and artists in our second issue of the *Pinyon Review* intertwine complementary interests and themes – memory, place, and the thin lines between love and hate, life and death, earth and spirit.

In “Windows, Letters to Ayla,” Jean Zipp remembers her childhood in Youngstown and Cleveland, Ohio in the 1920s. Her memories were lovingly preserved in many handwritten letters to her great-granddaughter, their lives beginning almost a century apart.

Robert B. Shaw recalls a mother’s seashells in one of three sharply detailed poems. In a poem by James Reiss, a girl remembers growing up outside of town around 1950 in the Colorado Rockies. Paul Dickey and Ira Joel Haber combine poetry and art to recover the “pasts” of frontier lives of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the Midwestern United States.

Michael Miller captures the intimate connection between life and death in his suite of poems. Diane M. Moore considers “The Final Sleep” and “Life Support.”

R. T. Castleberry presents an earthy view of modern urban life.

Neil Harrison reminds us of the cruelty in life and death in his poem, “Dominion.” And provides relief in a holiday fiction: “A Real Christmas Tree.”

Cy Dillon reveals the raw spirituality emanating from nature and observation in Jeffery Beam’s new book of poems, *The Broken Flower*.

And Stan Honda melds art and science in his exceptional photographs from the spring 2012 solar eclipse taken from his ideal viewpoint at Chaco Canyon, New Mexico. Ancient Pueblo people lived here from the ninth through the thirteenth centuries. They, like the Mayan people farther south (e.g., Yucatan) were sky watchers. Their buildings, rituals, festivals, and lives depended on the intertwining cycles of the sun and the moon.

December 21, 2012 marks the completion of the Great Mayan Cycle. To some this suggests the end of something, to others a beginning, perhaps of a New World Age.