

The Farmer's Roof

By Mac McGovern

as a child, the red barn invited me to mischief
inside, a loft filled with pigeons; guiding me toward destruction
with gun in hand, I create mayhem leaving holes in the farmer's roof



Author Notes: This is a poem of actual events from somewhere in my childhood. I wrote it as Sijo Poetry which is easy and fun to write...the truth will be revealed.

Olivia's Leaf

By Mac McGovern



once upon a time,
not long ago,
I hung around
enjoying warm summer days
wearing my beautiful
green dress

life was wonderful
with children playing
and picnics spread
the calming affect of the
nearby stream
still resonating in my veins
life was wonderful

when suddenly
everything changed
the days now dark and cold
no longer a whim and a breeze
children huddle
picnics for another day
the stream silent

Writing Raw

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hard time takes its toll
my beautiful dress has turned
to brown

I no longer hang around
I have drifted from on high
to my lowly state
I suffer the cold
awaiting my fate
knowing,
I will never wear
my beautiful green dress again

Author Notes: A simple, beautiful photograph of a brown leaf, next to a semi-frozen stream is the catalyst for the creation of this poem. I call the poem and the picture "Olivia's Leaf." The Photo Credit goes to my granddaughter Olivia. Without her photograph there would be no poem... proving once again the power of stimulus. I hope this poem pays tribute to her and her newfound talent.

Empathy

By Mac McGovern



the attack was sudden,
an ambush
in open terrain,
not much cover,
bullets from all sides
friends' fallen
wounded and dead,
the welling of tears
quickly wiped away,
empathy surges inside,
fear
the driving force ignites
superior training,
American warriors
leave no man behind,
live to die
another day

Wind

By Mac McGovern

in the fall it wafts leaves,
hiding tiny fairies
dancing on each
as in celebration
of freedom from trees bondage

in the winter snow
cold and unremorseful
hide beauty
seen
only by those who dare transition
to find her hidden secrets

in the summer
it is wispy
as if entranced by happiness
entering through my window
it feels like an old friend
touching me softly
reassuring night or day

it surrounds all the beauty of nature
making nary a sound
when there is peace
and contentment in her swishing, swirling
natural world
occasionally,
demonstrates a fierce side
as in anger,
supports her friends thunder and lightning
raising her winds from mild to destructive
in answering her mother's call

Wind at the mercy of the elements
of which she is made

Writing Raw

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Mac McGovern bio: Mac McGovern was born in Dubuque, Iowa and lived there most of his youth. Most of his adult life, he served in the US Navy, retiring in 1995. Mac has varied experience in the US Navy as a Chief Hospital Corpsman, Cardiopulmonary Technologist, Director of the Naval School of the Health Sciences Cardiopulmonary Technique School and of the Electroencephalography Technique School. He served as a Medical Recruiter, Educator, was the first Master Training Specialist in the Navy Medical Department and is a State of Florida Journeyman Recruiter. He has written and published nine books, and utilizes his extensive knowledge in writing poetry, articles, and blogs. In May 2011, he invented a new poetic form called "Interchanging Poetry." A narrative combining poetry with discussion, debate, dialog, or description; using poetry to emphasize the narrative. The purpose...to develop interchanging literary devices to enhance poetic discourse. Today, Mac resides in Pensacola, Florida with the inspiration and the love of his life, his wife Sandra.