untitled

love is a white tiger
with machine guns for eyes
and an ice cream-dripping mouth
so just shut up
and love me.

© Brad Canfield
Corvallis, OR
1st Place Poet's Choice
OPA Fall 2012 Contest

untitled 3

there is a rumor
that love can shoot the eye out of a salmon
in Alaska
from a ridge top on the moon.
I haven’t seen the fish
but I heard the gunshot.
which is odd
because really the shot shouldn’t be audible
coming from space and all.
but there you go.
faith.

© Brad Canfield
Corvallis, OR
1st Place New Poets
OPA Fall 2012 Contest

The Oregon State Poetry Association was created in 1956 as a statewide outgrowth of the Verseweavers Poetry Society of Portland, founded in 1936. The name was changed to the Oregon Poetry Association in the spring of 2011.

Oregon Poetry Association
PO Box 14582
Portland, OR 97293
www.oregonpoets.org

Rock and Root

Stone and bone are neat rhymes,
spine and ribcage words
underpinning the long path forward.

But what of rock and root,
I thought when we walked
the simplest route around
the marsh of old Trout Lake.

An improbable lodgepole pine
leans uphill over the sluggish river cut,
clutches in its thigh roots a rock
as thick as a goat. That stone tumbled
in mudslides the volcano vomited
eons ago.

Roots and boulders here
twist up like satisfied lovers
legs over torsos, arms about necks,
unmoved until frost sets in.
Twisted, rugged root tissue
cradles the most precious eggs.

We, on our stonework stroll,
see only a cut-away
where the river did
its work.

© Tricia Knoll
Portland, OR
3rd Place New Poets
OPA Fall 2012 Contest

Let's Do Lunch

My preppy nephew never wants
to grab a bite. He'd rather do
his midday meals at trendy haunts
with chefs trained at Le Cordon Bleu.

He starts off with the soup du jour.
his appetizer's escargot,
his entrée salmon steak au beurre,
and for dessert, the peach flambee.

I scan the menu till I'm blind,
anticipate and agonize,
hoping in vain that I might find
a bacon burger, shake, and fries.

© David Hedges
West Linn, OR
1st Place Members Only
OPA Spring 2012 Contest
Membership Benefits

- COMMUNITY: Meet and get to know other poets in your neighborhood. Join a reading and critique group and participate in local poetry readings.

  We currently have units in:
  - Corvallis
  - Eugene/Springfield
  - Portland
  - Rogue Valley
  - Salem

- CONTESTS: Compete for cash prizes in twice-yearly contests. Winners read poems at an awards ceremony at our conferences and winning poems are published in our anthology Verseweavers. Special categories for New Poets and Members Only.

  Members can enter multiple categories for a total contest fee of $5; non-members pay $4 per poem.

  Foster young poets by getting involved in our annual Oregon Student Poetry Contest. It is free of charge, and open to all Oregon k-12 students. Winners read their poems at an awards ceremony, and winning poems are published in our anthology, Cascadia.

- INFORMATION SHARING: receive quarterly electronic newsletters and occasional email updates containing member news, conference information, contest rules and publication opportunities. Visit the OPA website www.oregonpoets.org for up-to-date information on poetry events around the state, and have your own events posted there as well. Receive our handsome annual anthology, Verseweavers.

- CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS: Attend Spring and Fall Poetry Conferences for workshops, talks, readings and special events at discounted rates.

  Our conferences have been held in Ashland, Eugene, Pendleton, Portland, Roseburg, Salem, Waldport, and other cities all over Oregon.

- OPPORTUNITIES: Expand your skills through hands-on workshops, meet other working poets from Oregon and elsewhere display and sell your poetry collections, and actively participate in the promotion of Northwest poetry.

- MEMBERSHIP IN NFSPS: Automatically become a member of National Federation of State Poetry Societies. Link to the quarterly NFSPS newsletter, Strophes, with more contest news, and be eligible to enter 49 national poetry contests for a single low fee (50 if you’re a high school student).

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Join Us!

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<th>Membership Level</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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Subtotal $_____

Please consider making a donation to the OPA, we are a 501(c)(3) corporation. Donations are both federal income tax deductible and eligible for matching contributions to the Oregon Cultural Trust www.culturaltrust.org and the resulting tax credits on Oregon tax returns.

TOTAL $_____

I would like to support OPA by volunteering to help with (check all that apply): 
- conferences
- fundraising
- publicity
- other (please specify):

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Mail your check or money order along with this form to: OPA, PO Box 14582, Portland, OR 97293

Revised: 2/14/13