



Passionate Peace

David Wayne Dunn

Literary House Review

Only The Finest

An Exclusive Collection of
Engaging Stories and Brilliant Poems

Stories & Poetry Featuring
Pushcart Prize Nominees of 2007

Including Outstanding Contributions by a
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Dedicated to Exceptional Writing

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Literary House Review

Literary House Review

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Introduction To Literary House

It has been suggested in “Home: The Territorial Core”¹ by Professor J Douglas Porteous whose teaching career and study investigates the important intangible relationships (attachment, aesthetics, ethics, and spirituality) between humans and their environment using both imaginative literature and academic research, the basic reference point for the structuring of space and the focus of spatial activity is the image of *home*. “At the core of the ethological concept of territoriality lies the place we call home.... It is a basic reference point for the structuring of space and the focus of spatial activity.” It is also suggested by Dr. Porteous that home is to be fully appreciated by stepping over its threshold and out into the world. This serves to remind me the psychic space, the “home” that goes with me in my memories, is inevitably charged by my experiences leaving it and returning to mind it time and again. Out and in, home is not just some place and some space; it is a certain image I behave, something at once physical and not physical that houses *me*.

Carried in our embodied psyches, home goes with us whence we go and what matters here stays with us even are we never to see our birth home again. Our memory and our imagination and the twain that twangs the two out and in, holds together what will both “be” and “longs” to be in what belongs and remembers through us throughout our entire lives. Such a journey is not just over the literal threshold and out the door in the morning. It is inward and nightly revisited in our memories within our dreams and is outwardly remembered in our daily reflections and reveries. In short, we remember and imagine our stories of home ‘at home’ *in them* and we do this to share with each other what is valuable and lives on long after we are physically gone.

It has also been noted we move psychologically down from soul to the customs of our body in adumbration. It is in our bearing and in our memory we begin to think *back* and *down*. The way our imaginations serve this movement of our spirit’s bearing, for surely this is what I aspire to describe, Dear Reader, is the way we journey downward to soul.

Philosopher Edward Casey suggests our memories lend weight to our upward-flying thoughts in a lived, customary body. This lived body presents in its habitual bearing a depth to remembering as I recall and reflect the story in which both be-ing and longing reside. I remember by way of these mental images and psychic substances. These psychic images are what makeup my reflective 'stuff.' (And, I would like to suggest these images of psyche make-up in those senses such terms as both 'composition' and 'fantasize' may mean.) I continue to suppose psyche's images are the very 'stuff' of cosmos itself.

Carl Sagan, the noted and late US astronomer, became famous for telling us we are made from the same stuff as are stars. He remarks, in narrating the thirteen part "Cosmos" made to air for PBS television in 1980, "To make an apple pie from scratch, you must first invent the universe." Twenty five years later the new "Cosmos" continues to re-imagine and to remember this story of our planet and our own universe through the life cycle mimetic in the birth and death of stars. The telling moves onward and outward. And, this remembering retells beyond Sagan's point of view through the poetic basis of mind that still invents from scratch these personified images of origin that haunt our own in-visible worlds, our own "stuff-in-the-making."

The poets and storytellers for this premier volume of *Literary House* are no less inventive in their own compositions. As a contributor in this making, I can attest. For where I am to make my home from scratch much as the symbolic apple pie is made, I must begin by letting psyche. As the inward-backward dimension of the here and now, psyche as soul-maker turns over my literal and star-dusted outer happenings into personified thoughts. These memory fantasies-as-images have the power to reflect and render visible *their* inner chain of significant formation. To interact with my images and *their* histories is to be inescapably linked with secret worlds, heavens and heavenly 'hells.' Moreover, it is to be in mimesis with them as displayed, no matter my belief or disbelief in their god(s).

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Just as psyche-making allows for the internalizing of events as fictions, fictionalizing, according to James Hillman, turns the logos in our story plots over into the way we come to name our experiences. This logos is precisely the in-sighting power of mind to create a cosmos and give sense to it.² Working together, remembering and imagining continue internalizing and externalizing, gaining and losing the universe.

Fictionalizing is the way our imaginal life presents the story plot our images wish to tell us. These plots *are* our myths; *their* mythos transcends our plots. From this mythic perspective, every literal event is to be re-told over and back, down and in. A synchrony in remembering and imagining, Casey believes our fictions hold both out and in together. "When we imagine something – say, the great god Pan – we imagine out to the figure, extending ourselves body and soul in its direction."³ The felt-sense of our images feel for us down into the image-past as well as outward toward the uncertainties of future; onward as well as in.

Stepping over the threshold out of our literal and into our 'litera' invites taking the next step into poetic thought where our already poetic basis in mind suggests the logos that must operate "from scratch" in the plots of our lives will first have to "invent the universe" that lives it. Just as a detective story asks me to detect a killer, a tragedy asks me to accept the death of a principal and a comedy invites the resolution in conflicts through laughter, poetry invites the shaping and sharing of our stories in new ways.

It is with this mind the editors and publisher of *Literary House* assemble these tales and poetry of approximately fifty authors into our premier edition. It is with much delight, we invite you to 'our house' and hope you enjoy the read.

Stephanie Pope
mythopoetry.com
September, 2007

(Footnotes)

¹ See *Geographical Review*, Vol. 66, No. 4 (Oct., 1976), pp. 383-390

² See *Healing Fiction*, Spring: Woodstock, 1996, p40

³ See *Spirit and Soul*, Spring: Dallas, 1991 "Foreword: Spirit and Soul In Perspective"

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Introduction to Literary House.

All Pushcart nominations will be announced in November.

It is now my utmost pleasure to present to our readers,
our First Edition of Literary House Review
Victoria Valentine, Literary House Publisher

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Dedication

**"To make an apple pie from scratch,
you must first invent the universe."**

Carl Sagan

US astronomer & popularizer of astronomy (1934 - 1996)