**A New World**

*The land behind your back ends here.*

*David Wagner*

Going inward,

I see my grey sleek wolf’s belly

moving forward on long legs striding,

free, clear, unassuming.

My natural strength carrying me

into the clear space ahead.

Walking in natural grace

my path in the wilderness.

One amongst many,

solitary but not alone.

Emerging from the ashes of my past,

an inner knowing seems to lead me

to the birthing of a new world.

**In this singular place**

*‘To each of us you reveal yourself differently,*

*To the ship as coast line*

*To the shore as ship.’*

*- Rainer Maria Rilke*

Here in this singular place, this moment in time,

Where I sit or lay, stand or walk or swim,

I have a view of the world that is solely mine.

No one else sees the light dance on the water

From this precise angle.

So each one of us,

In those too infrequent moments,

Beholds and weaves and makes visible

The tapestry of creation,

The garment of the Great Mother

In its infinite shimmering hues

And in the dark folds of the cloth

Where we hide or dance,

Dream or sing,

Sleep or awaken.

**Silent Snake and the One Great Love**

*(From Rattlesnake during a vision quest in the Joshua Tree desert, I received the spirit name Silent Snake)*

I am and unfold, a silent snake,

undulating in my core, quietly

carrying the vibrations of the Great Silence

from which we sprang, into the life

of my loved ones, in and out of bodies,

bringing the unseen gift to all,

a quiet anchor for those who are lost,

a refuge and a constant,

ever changing reflection of the ground of being,

the One Great Love.

**Doorstep Delivery**

(*Inspired by a poem of the same title by Greg Hall)*

What was left on my doorstep

Like an abandoned orphan?

Will someone please take care of her,

Claim her and take her home?

But no, years later she is still there

Shivering in the cold

Silent and beyond hunger,

Her big eyes looking at me darkly.

Will I ever pick her up and take her in?

When, finally, it became clear

That no one else would claim her,

I picked her up and brought her in.

Making up for decades of neglect,

I washed her and dressed her

And combed her hair. I nursed her

And rocked her and soothed her to sleep.

I cooed over her. I named her and

Came to know her as she slowly

Softened and began to trust.

Over time she told me everything.

She learned to cry and rage.

Together we shook our fists

And stomped our feet

At the injustice of it all.

Now she is my happy, funny little girl.

She lives with me and I belong with her.

Hand in hand we walk through life

Sometimes skipping, sometimes stalling,

Finding our way into Love.

**Fragile**

So fragile I feel.

Having coughed all winter,

My tissues wilting.

The petals of a flower

When it’s done blooming,

Turning slowly translucent

And slack,

Before they gently drift

Back to earth

Whence they came

Without a sound.

**I am the One I have been looking for**

Out of the bustle of the town

I enter the narrow passageway

leading to a stairwell.

Going down, the city noises disappear

and all becomes quiet.

I descend

until I stand before a tall wooden door

with many panels, but no handle.

A word appears on the door : Ave.

My soul bursts into song,

I am being greeted, I am welcomed,

I am expected, I am holy.

With a slight push, the door opens.

I enter a small circular room

with a tall domed ceiling.

On the book lying on the desk

I leave my past behind

along with the suffering ones.

Effortlessly, I begin to float

Above the city in the night sky,

I rise towards the stars

spreading large white wings,

luminous.

I am only a slight silhouette

in the totality of being,

the same and yet distinct.

Then I dissolve for a while,

as in a silent dream.

I find myself walking back up the stairs.

I stand at the portal to the city.

I have my form but

my heart is a wide open cosmos,

like a window to the infinite.

I am silent.

I know myself.

I will re-enter the world

But not be of it.

I am open and free.

Grace can flow,

and Love unfettered.