Faith, Hope and Fiction

Love Song and Moonbird – 2 Poems

By Murray Alfredson

Love song

You live inside me like a poem growing
  from unseen deep,
like themes of music richly, warmly flowing
  through my sleep.

You stir beside me, nuzzling past my dreaming:
  our spirits wake
like kindled flames in dark from hallowed hearths outstreaming;
  our bodies quake.

Sparks leap from skin to skin; fresh arts devising,
  our souls conspire
to build our love, our thoughts, our touch, all rising
  to one wave of fire.

Flames sink inside us, play round hot coals: glowing,
  we draw apart

and lie together, murmured warmth bestowing
  wrap heart in heart.

Poem and music, sweet as incense writhing,
  sway in time
with waves of sleep that lull our four lungs' breathing
  to rested rhyme.

Moonbird

Again again
that mudlark spears
his window image —
thump stun thump.

Whelmed with pity
my lady ties
a mirror to
a twig beside
his branch.

Again again
he lights upon it,
and moons around
his moving image;
he finds no other
mate this Spring.

Murray Alfredson is a retired librarian and lecturer, and was also a Buddhist Associate to the Multi-faith Chaplaincy Service at Flinders University of South Australia. He has published essays on Buddhist meditation and on inter-faith relations in Theravada, The middle way, In the round, *and* Eremos*; and he has published poems and translations from the German in journals in Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom. His collection,* Nectar and light, *appeared early in 2007 in a shared volume, number 12 of the New poets series jointly published in Adelaide by Friendly Street Poets and Wakefield Press. He was awarded the High Beam Poetry Prize in 2004 and the Poetry Unhinged Multicultural prize in 2006. He was nominated for the Pushcart Prize in 2008.*