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ASTERISKS INDICATE UNTITLED POEMS. UNDERLINED TEXT INDICATES A HYPERLINK.

ECONOMY

Iamb like pentameter,
five feet long when laying down,
and stressed
every other breath I take.

JONATHAN BATTEAS

BOARD ROOM

Her nail polish flakes
leaving tiny red peaks
and unnavigable rivers
where power once was.

MARGUERITE MARÍA RIVAS



A deep pit will yield one of two things:
A stinking corpse
Or a new-fangled flying machine.

KIM FELTKAMP

DIFFRACTION

snail's glair affixes brightness
turns paths patterns sun
breaks spectrum splinters enters
eyeball's liquid globe

MICHAEL JONES

A MOMENT OF GREEN LIFE

lingering heat
rainwater's clarity
in a mushroom

RAMESH ANAND

BEING BUDDHIST

Stepping into the musty basement
with my son asking
if it's today or tomorrow

TYLER GABRYSH

*

soap bubbles
on a spring breeze—
forgotten ideas

KJMUNRO



Behind discerning delicacies
in the undoing, a wave of disdain
rolls across his face
elegantly undetected.

ELISABETH SMITH WOOD

REALITY CHECK, PLEASE

Insular and isolated, sitting with your phone.
Considering an app for splitting
the dinner bill. Forgetting,
you always eat alone.

JONATHAN BATTEAS

THE SOUND OF ZEBRAS

Monochromatic keys crescendo
with the sunset. The rain will
fall back home in your music.

RACHEL KEARNEY

SKYPE

You fall asleep
Against your guitar.
I hope you're not this beautiful
For every girl you know.

CAROLINE MAHONY

*

weather cock—
my finger points at
the north star

PRAVAT KUMAR PADHY

LILACS

Raindrops on bright green leaves,
new as first love.

I immerse my face
in soft wet purple flowers.

CAROL BERGER

WHITE RICE

Hot water permeating
absorption confers stillness
grains softened and changed

KELLY A. SIMMONS

A QUESTION OF BLAME

Have we always been
calling curses the cause
when it may have been
us all along?

MICHAEL ATREIDES LAIR

*

street artist drawing

\$25.00

without frame

MARTY SMITH

*

only at twilight
my trophies' shadows fill
the empty spaces

R. A. DAVIS



Last Autumn's leaves
are brown butterflies
in warm Spring wind.

SALLIE TERNEY



Envious of wind that grazes
his shadowed face,
suspicious of sun
that kisses my own.

ELISABETH SMITH WOOD

DEXTEROUS

We are the unwitting
Agents of a
Calculated chaos

ANDREW WENSON



spring song greeting
in Canadian maple—
we crane our necks

MARTY SMITH

THEFT

Even though I'm over 21 now
Stealing my parent's beer
Still holds a certain danger to it

H. CYRUS KELLOGG

AFTER YEARS

I'm so often
sitting around stroking my intentions
pulling them out
of the space you're not allowed in

STEVEN MINCHIN

LATE EVENING

Slow red burn of a cigar end
Caracoling smoke wisps
Half-spoken thoughts eddy out

JE MCGAVOCK

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This month's cover photo, "Old Mill," is by **Fabio Sassi**. Fabio has had several experiences in music, photography, and writing. He has been a visual artist since 1990, making acrylics using the stenciling technique to create weird perspectives. He lives in Bologna, Italy. | www.coroflot.com/fabiosassi

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Jonathan Batteas is a poet living in the heartland of America. His poetry has been previously published in *Four and Twenty*. | pasceverbo.com

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Michael Jones teaches at Oakland High School in Oakland, California. His poems have appeared in *Atlanta Review*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, and elsewhere.

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Michael Atreides Lair lives and writes in Springfield, Missouri.

Caroline Mahony is a spoken word poet from Queens, New York. She was recently titled Syracuse University's Spring 2012 Take the Mic Poetry Slam Champion. Caroline's winning poem: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDm-W9iij1o>.

ie mcgavock hails from Ireland and salutes the pacific.

Steven Minchin is an Albany poet and artist. His work has appeared in various venues with more forthcoming in *Blue & Yellow Dog; Short, Fast, and Deadly*; and *Kerouac's Dog Magazine*. | www.Facebook.com/StevenMinchin.v5.0

Pravat Kumar Padhy is a Geoscientist. His haiku, tanka, and haibun have been published in *Lynx, The Notes from the Gean, Atlas Poetica, Simply Haiku, Mainichi Daily, The Heron's Nest, Chrysanthemum, A Hundred Gourds, Magnapoets*, etc. | pkpadhy.blogspot.com

Marguerite María Rivas teaches in New York City. Her work has been published in such journals as *The Americas Review, Earth's Daughters*, and *Short, Fast, and Deadly*. She is the author of *Tell No One: Poems of Witness*. | margueritemariarivas.com

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Marty Smith is a poet-artist who sells self-published poetry books and art prints in Toronto's Kensington Market. His work is featured in *Couplets*: a multi author poetry blog tour, and on Facebook. | www.docstoc.com/docs/56248734/haiku-poetry-and-paintings

Andrew Wenson is a nineteen-year-old poet and musician from Warren, Michigan. This is his first time his work has appeared in any publication, though he hopes to publish more poems in the future.

Elisabeth Smith Wood is a former fashion columnist. In addition to writing poetry, she is currently collaborating on a play, as well as writing a novel. She is a member of the Florida Writers Association.

Sallie Tierney of Burien, Washington, is a widely published poet and novelist. This is her second appearance in *Four and Twenty*. Her novels may be found on Smashwords.com. | dandelionlunch.wordpress.com