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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>After Forty Years of Marriage</td>
<td>Barry Basden</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>A Pretty Poor Knife</td>
<td>Max West</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Yowl</td>
<td>Jose Alcantara</td>
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<td>4.</td>
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<td>Alex Cigale</td>
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<td>5.</td>
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<td>Luisa Muradyan</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>location, location, location</td>
<td>Omar Azam</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Scrabble</td>
<td>Michael Atreides Lair</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>A Question of Validity</td>
<td>Neal Whitman</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Einstein, awakening</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Game Night</td>
<td>Kailea Rosenberg</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Deployed</td>
<td>Annie Welch</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Hardknocker,</td>
<td>Haesong Kwon</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Lost</td>
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<td>Your Way of Walking the Dog</td>
<td>Helen Puciloski</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>boredom &amp; resurrection</td>
<td>Peter Schwartz</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>sleepless night</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>Blue Senryu</td>
<td>Faith Davis</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>Heart + Spirit</td>
<td>Omar Azam</td>
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<td>19.</td>
<td>Fog</td>
<td>Ed Markowski</td>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>A Residue of Unengaged Experience</td>
<td>Max West</td>
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<td>21.</td>
<td>Each Flower Child</td>
<td>Don Ford</td>
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<td>22.</td>
<td>Longest Night</td>
<td>Kathryn T.S. Bass</td>
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<td>23.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>Ode to the Bouy</td>
<td>Susie Swanton</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Asterisks indicate untitled poems. Underlined text indicates a hyperlink.
We spare each other details.
Just a drink together at day’s end,
old hurts fading by candlelight …
most likely … maybe.
Sure, I had valid points
But at night’s end
Being partially right
Is a pretty poor knife to break bread
YOWL

Over the howitzer,
A rainbow breaks, framing a sculpture.
Red—black—blindness.
Goat herders shuffle ahead.
Separate sections in Mexican cemeteries for recently deceased and long departed, the dead remembered and the truly dead.
Ukrainian Jew
Pogroms Holocaust Pogroms
A label maker
i confine religion to holy places
and let every other nook and cranny
drip with God-consciousness
“If it wasn’t for the Q!”
He lamented.
Why is it that identifying birds by sound seems less valid than by sight?
Einstein, Awakening

first ray of sunlight
a particle
waves
Elegant toppings spill from mouth corners
Tumble off the plate below, bouncing like hail
Cuboid, meaty erasers
Pizza sausage
the girl fades between
desert nights and southern days
slipping further from the place
where they slept like cats
go—king
of hills, tiny tyrant, host

of gliding, idling dragonflies, arrows
of him him him him, of her her her her
So many hours
stolen by the pull
of the river
on a white ball
The dog laps the beer
you spill on the sidewalk.
Such abundance from a man
who seems mostly dead.
the problem with graveyards
is they don’t stay graveyards
while my wife travels on business
I wonder
if the snow has come
Blue Sky
bottomless Ocean meet and find they often wear
the same clothes.
Fashion a tender heart I say
Breathe a spirit strong
Neither one superior, Intrinsically interior
Extol this way to be.
She Whispers

I Love You

Kinda Sorta
Fear can only exist
Where there is a residue
Of unengaged experience
In just six days
I made this world
And every child
A flower in it
Longest Night

In this darkness
crisp air, bright Orion
and earth’s dusty thumbprint
pressing the night’s wide eye

Kathryn T.S. Bass
As if a hundred jewels were scattered among thousands of stones. With clarity, simplicity, and depth of precision.
Standing still day after time,
the bouy glitters wet
at a hundred yards
and grows dirt at three feet.
BIOS

This month’s cover art is by Marilyn Johnston. Marilyn is a poet and amateur photographer from Salem, Oregon. She received an Oregon Literary Arts Fellowship and is the author of Red Dust Rising, a poetry chapbook about a family’s recovery from war.

Omar Azam of Chicago, Illinois, has published poetry in a variety of journals including Autumn Leaves, Damazine, Unlikely Stories, Anastomoo, and vox poetica. He is founding editor of Subjective Substance, an online poetry magazine.

Jose Alcantara is a math teacher who recently converted to poetry. Some of his poems will be appearing in the March issue of Sugar Mule. He lives in Western Colorado with his wife and child.

Barry Basden lives in Texas with his wife and two yellow Labs. He’s been published in a few places and edits Camroc Press Review.

Kathryn T. S. Bass has authored two books—Within & Without and Bright Seeds. A Colorado Artist Fellow, residency artist in K-12 schools, and advertising copywriter, she holds a Ph.D. from the University of Denver.

Kathryn’s website: www.kadroodle.com/poetry
Alex Cigale’s poems have appeared in Colorado, Green Mountains, North American, St. Petersburg Review, Redactions, Tar River Poetry, and 32 Poems, his translations from the Russian in Brooklyn Rail, Modern Poetry in Translation, and PEN America.

Alex’s website: www.albany.edu/offcourse/issue41/cigale_frontpage.html

Faith Davis, a professional photographer and amateur wife and mother, began writing short stories and poetry before she was ten. “Blue Senryu” is her first published work.

Don Ford is an Environmentalist and Forestry graduate of Paul Smith’s College. He has had work published in The Shine Journal, Dead Mule Poetry, Fairytales and Dreams Publishing, Adirondack Life Magazine, Guidepost Magazine, and more.

Don’s Website: www.cnyartists.com/profile/DonFord

Scott Duke Kominers is an economist by moonlight. His work has appeared in Modern Haiku and tinywords, and is forthcoming in Frogpond.

Scott’s website: www.scottkom.com


Michael Atreides Lair lives and writes in Springfield, Missouri.
Ed Markowski’s short stories and poems have been published nationally and internationally. He has presented his words in bars, basements, parking lots, on street corners, at bus stops, and most recently at the National Arts Club in Manhattan and at The Chautauqua Institution.

Luisa Muradyan is currently pursuing her MFA at Texas State University. She is also a staff member of the *Front Porch Journal*.

Helen Puciloski of Beaverton, Oregon, and Morningbreath Farm and Home for the Easily Amused, is a student in the MFA program at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon. Her poems have appeared in *Calyx Journal*.

Helen’s blog: [andotherwords.blogspot.com](http://andotherwords.blogspot.com)

Kailea Rosenberg is a high school senior in Eugene, Oregon, and enjoys storytelling, thought-provocative phrases, and all things wordplay. She has never been published before *Four and Twenty*.

Peter Schwartz’s poetry has been featured in *The Collagist, The Columbia Review, Diagram,* and *Opium Magazine*. His latest collection, *Old Men, Girls, and Monsters,* was released as part of the Achilles Chapbook Series.

Susie Swanton’s poetry has appeared in the *cream city review* and *The Widowmoon Press*. She performed in the entry of the Encyclopedia Show in Chicago that featured slices of John Wayne Gacy’s brain.

Annie Welch of Louisville, Kentucky, is a poet with an MA in depth-oriented counseling psychology. Her writing appears on several websites including Gabriel Gadfly: Poetry, Jingle Poetry, Undead Poets Society, One Stop Poetry, and the Promising Poets’ Parking Lot.
Max West is a creative writer and musician residing in Sacramento. In addition to many poems he has published a book entitled *Fourteen Months and Two Weeks Downtown*.

Max’s website: flasheslightning.blogspot.com

Neal Whitman has published over three hundred Western form poems and haiku over the past five years. He has won the James McIntyre poetry contest and third prize in the Common Ground Review contest.