



[Home](#)

[Fall-Winter 2013-14](#)

[Summer-Fall 2013](#)

[Spring-Summer 2013](#)

[Winter-Spring 2013](#)

[Fall-Winter 2012-2013](#)

[Summer-Fall 2012](#)

[Spring-Summer 2012](#)

[Winter-Spring 2012](#)

[Autumn/Winter 2011-12](#)

[Summer 2011](#)

[Winter/Spring 2011](#)

[Autumn/Winter 2011](#)

[Summer 2010](#)

[Spring 2010](#)

[Winter 2010](#)

[Autumn 2009](#)

[Summer 2009](#)

[Spring 2009](#)

[Autumn 2008](#)

[Summer 2008](#)

[Spring/Summer 2008](#)

[Winter/Spring 2008](#)

Three Poems

by A.J. Huffman

Our Descent into Darkness

was guided.
Battery-operated lights flashed
from foreman's fingers as we lined
up like grade-school children, nervously
chattering about what waited below.

Nothing echoed
in the caverns but our footprints.
No bats or birds flapped above our heads.
They clear the site daily, I guess,
to ensure the tourists aren't scared.

Sad stalagmites and stalactites stood
alone in defiance. Skyscrapers building
and dripping in emptied grottos. Icons
of nature's will to remain. We whispered
past them, afraid they might answer
back in monstrous roar. We did not belong
though our trespass was ignored.

Insignificance resonated,
as if we were flies
not even worth swatting against the wall.

With Vantriloquy

I lie
to myself, through my own
mirror. Silver reflection, lips
pantomiming idyllic absence of
fear
doubt
resistance
any thought
interrupting the automated
motions of daily
life. Survival is not
an elaborate action movie grand production.
It is quiet and thought-
less and
numb.

Editor's Note

Guidelines

Contact

Romans Used to Eat the Tongues

of hummingbirds and flamingos. I shudder at the thought, my mind not quite able to wrap around the idea. A non-vegetarian by nature, I understand the concept of animal as food, but the extraction alone defies comprehension. I imagine silver tweezers lined next to cages or corrals. Possibly a box or two of toothpicks would be involved, assuming anything from the smaller bird would be an appetizer at best.

A.J. Huffman has published seven solo chapbooks and one joint chapbook through various small presses. She is a Pushcart Prize nominee, and the winner of the 2012 Promise of Light Haiku Contest. Her poetry, fiction, and haiku have appeared in hundreds of national and international journals, including *Labletter*, *The James Dickey Review*, *Bone Orchard*, *EgoPHobia*, *Kritya*, and *Offerta Speciale*, in which her work appeared in both English and Italian translation. She is also the founding editor of Kind of a Hurricane Press. www.kindofahurricanepress.com .

Copyright 2014, © A.J. Huffman. This work is protected under the U.S. copyright laws. It may not be reproduced, reprinted, reused, or altered without the expressed written permission of the author.
