

***NEIGHBOR AND CLOSE FRIEND***

**By ayaz daryl nielsen**

his dear wife has passed away  
let's take a long walk

grumble, grumble  
ice cold and slippery slush  
my big winter boots  
grumble with each step

scent of lavender  
as we sit  
in our garden  
fragrant essence  
of noble truth

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come, sacred footsteps

gather us in our  
world's original voice,  
reaffirming the sanctity  
within these songs of  
morning doves  
and the innocence  
and decency within  
this, our community  
of humanness

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married to poetry  
taking poems to bed with us  
word-by-naked word

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this mirror image  
a certain lack of glamour  
gonna pout awhile

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poetry...  
our fingertips  
touching each other's  
heartstrings...

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**Bio**

ayaz daryl nielsen, veteran and former hospice nurse, lives in Longmont, Colorado, USA. Editor of *bear creek haiku* (30+ years/160+ issues) with poetry published worldwide, he is online at: *bear creek haiku poetry, poems and info*. Among other deeply appreciated honors, he is especially delighted by the depth and heart of poets worldwide whose poems have a home in *bear creek haiku's* print and online presence.

