

*BLUESTEM*

By Ayaz Daryl Nielsen

big bluestem,  
mountain mahogany,  
bluegramma grass and  
green prickly pear cactus,  
and me, too! me, too!

Waking, stretching your arms above the pillows,  
you flex your legs, toes pointing toward the foot of the bed  
As you yawn, your breasts rise and your thighs quiver  
and as I watch you, it's as though I, too, soar  
within your unflinching forgiveness and grace

this morning  
the coffee in me  
unable to cope

—  
emptiness  
in our moments  
always

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what now  
can't help  
being  
myself

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peeked into  
my innermost  
room and removed  
the sticky-note  
stating  
'limited entrance,  
only"

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our all night embrace  
lingering side-by-side  
this gentle euphoria

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this mountain's own overlook  
trees, lakes, rocks with lichen  
moss, animals, birds, all of  
the down below and the far away,,  
climbing as high as I can  
wanting to see  
what the summit sees...

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nothing more to be heard  
geese returning home  
hearts and minds rejoice

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kingdoms of elegant minds  
crooning amid dreams  
and realms of delight  
unearthing plentitude

**BIO:**

ayaz daryl nielsen, veteran and hospice nurse, lives in Longmont, Colorado, USA. Editor of *bear creek haiku* (30+ years/165+ 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.