

1,000

By Scott Thomas Outlar

1,000 poems
1,000 lines 1,000 times
1,000 rhymes
1,000 little crimes
committed
in every lying verse

BEYOND THE MIST

The horizon is gray,
and this mist in my face
causes memories to rise
about lovers long since past
who have moved on in life
for better or for worse.

My heart is a blank slate,
and my only wish
for everyone I've ever known,
whether they
did me right or did me wrong,
is that they enjoy
happiness from this day on.

In the distance
upon the mount

comes a voice
eerily familiar
from a time
I can't quite remember,
or maybe I
was never actually there
when the message
first was shared;
but whatever the case
might be,
I'm happy to learn
that forgiveness
still has a presence
here on earth.

With two eyes closed
they become as one,
leading me on
toward the song
I've heard can save
any soul ready
for rehabilitation.

SCRAMBLED EQUATION

Maybe she
was just better
at advanced forms
of mathematics
and quantum mechanics

than I was,
but I could have sworn
with all my heart
that forever
meant something else
entirely.

Bio

Scott Thomas Outlar hosts the site 17Numa.wordpress.com where links to his published poetry, fiction, essays, and interviews can be found. He has three poetry collections currently available: *Songs of a Dissident* (Transcendent Zero Press, 2015), *Happy Hour Hallelujah* (CTU Publishing, 2016), and *Chaos Songs* (Weasel Press, 2016).