

Bearded Child

By Charles Darnell

You had a funny way of putting things,
Like the time you said I was a bearded child,
So wise but innocent to the ways of the world,
As if you knew so much more.
I guess, in your way, you did.

We would sit at the sandwich shop,
Argue about the weight of clouds,
The number of tears it takes to fill
A thimble, as if you had personal knowledge
And brooked no contradiction.

In time you ran out of things to teach,
And I had learned it all.
You said my spongy head
Had taken everything,
There was no more to pour.

You had a funny way of putting things.

Crimson

The painters have it right.

Their eye for distant objects

That seem to draw

All toward it

From periphery

Is as it truly is.

I see that now,

As you walk away.

The walkway is smaller

As it nears your feet,

The windows along the hall

Bend in toward your figure.

The lights overhead

Are bright dots,

Smaller above you.

Inside, my heart grows

Smaller too.

Shriveling with each step,

The juice once flowing

Stopped when you

Cut it open to

The jellied bone

And poured out

Around me

Shining crimson.

Bio

Charles Darnell lives in San Antonio, Texas USA. He is a member of the Sun Poets Society.

Charles has been writing poetry for many years but only began seriously in 2009 when he participated in the San Antonio Poetry Fair. He was inspired by the work presented at the Fair and had several poems win recognition and publication over the ensuing years.

Recently Charles has been submitting poems to various online and print journals and magazines. His work has appeared in Voices Along the River, di-verse-city, Still Crazy, Miracle Magazine, The Enigmatist, Misty Mountain Review, The Shine Journal and others. He attends the open-mic sessions of the Sun Poets Society regularly to read his work and to listen to the poetry of other members and guests.

Charles is past winner of the Tempie-Skerritt-Hickman Award and the San Antonio Poetry Fair Award. His poem "Waiting For Joy" won the "On Fire" Online poetry competition in Bangalore in May, 2013.

Presently, Charles is completing a manuscript of poetry.