

THOUGHTS

By Graham Vivian Lancaster

Lying in a seabed furrow
Of broken shell and coral shale,
Sharks teeth and long dead ocean debris
Exhaled bubbles
Gently rising shimmering sunlight silver
From eighteen meters
Alongside a Potato bass
Probably one hundred plus kilograms
Like me
Trusting
Watching each other
Eye to eye
In our peaceful graveyard meeting
Conscious of my demand valve
Inhaling slowly
Exhaling gentle rasp
And I am overawed at your trust

You sought me out
What are you thinking?

BAD DAY AT THE OFFICE

Hanging higher in my own
Private warm blue
Watching up country divers beneath
In feeding frenzy of
Camera flashing
Bun fighting inspection
Of something interesting;
Graceful shoal of Yellow Banded Snappers
Vibrant silver with yellow stripes
One larger than the rest
Plagued by a pinkie finger sized
Cleaner Wrasse
Striped black and electric blue
Trying to clean the Snapper's parasites,
Irritably bumped off with body flicks
Again
And again
Moving higher to the gills
Too high
The Snapper snaps sideways
Gulps the Cleaned down in one bite

What?

I have witnessed the unbelievable.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

Two meter Honeycomb Moray Eel
Undulating across the ocean bed
Long dorsal fin flowing
Snaking for home
Canted to one side
As the small bluegrey eye
Watches me above
Suddenly hesitates
Turns and rises curiously
Opportunist needle sharp teeth
Rises as I rise
On increasing heartbeats
Until warning blast of demand valve air
Warns it off

Yellow fish
Yellow demand valve
Yellow cylinder

Another Honeycomb Moray?

Bio:

South African Writers Circle Quill Award winning author and 2010 American Pushcart Poetry nominee, 2010 English Academy of Southern Africa poetry judge, 2011 English academy of Southern Africa Gold Medal proposal, he writes in ten genres from the many eclectic facets of his adventurous life. Widely published in anthologies, with thirty five published books of his own, his teenage adventure series and poetry are being taught in schools.

One of his poems was chosen to represent South Africa at the Dec 2010 World Poetry Festival in Canada.

Translated into Spanish, Romanian, Hindi and French, read on radio in Argentina and Puerto Rico. Published in *Fullosia Press*, *A Hudson View*, *Labyrinth*, *Convorbini Literare*, *Seventh Quarry Press*, *Nord Literar*, *Axiom*, *World Anthology Of Love Poetry*, *Crossroads Of The Century*, *Sailing Through The Mists Of Time*, *Across The Long Bridge*, *Journeys*, *Skyline*.