

the night valley

lying in
each other's arms
in
post-orgasmic
bliss,
touching
from head to toe.

through the
bedroom air
heavy
with lovemaking
and the
pulsing
candlelight

your
eyelashes
are
shadowy butterflies,

your
eyes
darkly shining
smiles,

your
body
the night valley
that holds me
to this earth,

the night valley
where i
am allowed
to be
the river.



Kirk Lumpkin

Kirk has authored two books of poetry, *Co-Hearing* and *In Deep*. {re In Deep: "Kirk Lumpkin has been an important part of the Bay Area (and beyond) poetry scene for years...We're proud to see this new book gathering poems that are homages, poems that are rants and chants, and poems that are evocative and tender love lyrics."—*Bay Area Poets Seasonal Review* "I'm deeply honored to have your poem for me [Walking in the Woods with a Poet] in a book with so many other wonderful poems. ...it's such a solid real illumination...consciousness mingled with your own consciousness. Lovely, Michael"—from a letter from Michael McClure, Beat poet & playwright}. He's working on three album-length CDs: one with The Word-Music Continuum (poetry/music band, their second CD); with a songwriting partner (original rock songs); and with the Wild Buds (West Coast Mardi Gras music). As the Special Events & Promotions Coordinator of the Berkeley Farmers' Market he works with *Poetry Flash* in producing the Watershed Environmental Poetry Festival, hosted annually by former U.S. Poet Laureate, Robert Hass. He formerly hosted the Café International Series; SF, the Ecology Center Literary Series, Berkeley; and open mics at Burning Man. Last year he joined the Board of PEN Oakland. The year before a song he co-wrote was a finalist in the UNISONG International Song Contest and another was an Honorable Mention in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest.

