

# DELAYED HARVEST

This pumpkin is  
hollow. A husk filigreed  
amongst a bleached field,

like Pompeii.

All is carnelian  
collapsed in this frost  
which remains only  
as a touch of fog

a touch that imploded  
into its own frozen weight.

This pumpkin  
missed the harvest,  
it held its stalk in a wild embrace;  
an embrace that has become  
historic, now only it

and a withered  
umbilical remain, each unable  
to support the other.



After graduating with a BA in Mathematics and a minor in philosophy, Michael Ruggiero realized that he was neither a flower farmer nor a mathematician. This realization led him to California to start his book "Many Homeless Nights." Currently Michael is engaged in highs takes babysitting, poetic exploration and poker, with plans to apply to a number of MFA program next year.

# MICHAEL RUGGIERO