

The Tantric Orchard

for Janet

I am so lucky to have found this orchard
And you in it
Under the soil our roots embrace
Like small animals driven underground

The twisted branches of the apple trees reach
Back to touch their thighs
Such springtime muscles
Shot off this green cannonball of earth

Lie on the wet grass with me
Like fruit we swell and rub against each other
Kiss like raindrops in the milky sunlight

Grasping roots inside you
I will transplant them in a shrine
Alive with wet green dripping things
That shake themselves awake

And I will visit you with blue lakes and reckless hills
And we will watch the large white birds fly by
Like abandoned opportunities searching for their season.

Around us, black grappling branches orchestrate the air
which parts, and endlessly parts again
The whole orchard ripples in a soft green chord
Where the land ends, and the feelings begin

Doug Knott

Doug Knott has been writing and performing poetry in LA and elsewhere for many years. He is the author of a collection, "Small Dogs Bark Cartoons," many chapbooks and has been published variously, including in the anthology, "Outlaw Bible of American Poetry." He made a series of poetry videos, several of which won prizes and played on broadcast TV in New York and Chicago. He was a member of the touring poet-performer group, the Carma Bums. In the 80's he produced and hosted an advanced variety performance show and had his own cabaret nightclub - and recently hosted a monthly poetry series at "Stories" bookstore in Echo Park. A new facet is developing dramatic versions of his work for theatrical venues. He has performed at Electric Lodge and Highways, and in 2011 his 1-man show, "Last of the Knotts," won a "best of Fringe" award from the Hollywood Fringe Festival, and then played monthly for a year at the Asylum Lab theatre. In June he moved the show to the Santa Monica playhouse, where his next performance is Thurs, Sept. 27, at 8pm.

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