



A Hundred Million Years of Nectar Dances

Richard Jarrette

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Richard Jarrette's wanderlust in the natural world does not require a compass. He treks a starlit path favoring one foot and then the other, attentive and inquisitive. Jarrette is the author of *Beso the Donkey* and lives in California's Central Coast.

A VIEW FROM THE BENCH

*Beneath the canopy of an Italian Stone Pine,
in a ravine below the park, crows
gather to their council.*

*Hummingbirds kiss and kiss again
the autumn sage
near a bouquet of girls
making rules for their game.*

*Aristophanes said the Sacred Mysteries of Eleusis
are the saying of many ridiculous things,
and many serious things.*

*The girls consider whether
imaginary friends should have turns,
deciding—yes—so no one
feels bad.*

*The crows scatter
to the perimeter of the shade
and the world seems lucky
in every direction.*

MATT SUTHERLAND (Fall 2015)

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