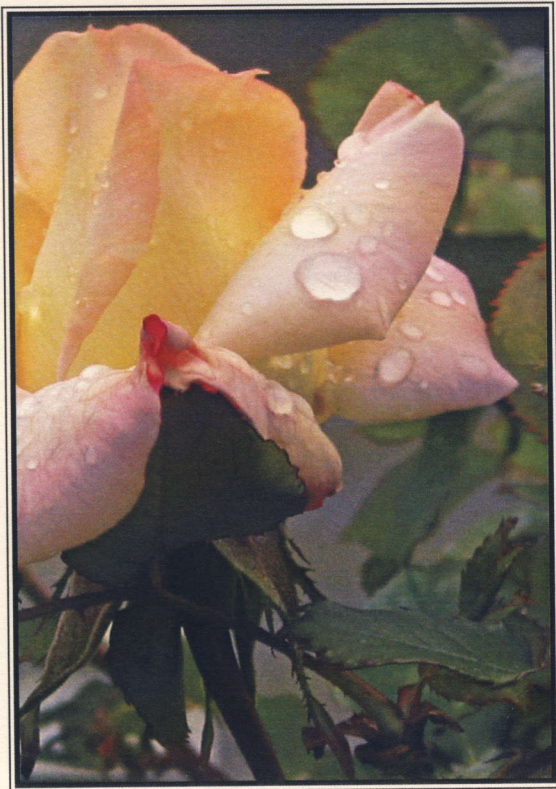


Avocet

A Journal of Nature Poems



Summer 2012

Cloud Mountains

Cloud mountains floating in
above the green-brown hills
harbinger heat's end.

Cloud shadow shapes,
puzzle-pieces of shade,
temper the sun's strength.

Sunlight bright-whitens
the clouds' leading edge;
their bulging grey bellies
gravid with unspilled rain.

Rain softens the hard ground,
damp soil nurtures
roots and seeds.

Crazy Paving

Crazy paving is made of
irregular slabs of flat stone
tied together by grey mortar.

The mortar between and beneath
the rough-cut grout-bound slabs
shows dark grey and moist
in early morning damp.

Sometimes the soul's the mortar
that binds life's parts together
into one patterned whole.

Sometimes it can't,
and then,
life's
pieces
fall
apart.

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