

dead reckoning: the calculation of a ship's position without astronomical observations, by means of the distances sailed on the various courses as shown by the log and compass, with corrections for currents, etc. Using this technique it is possible to reach destinations which cannot be seen from the departure point, and when there are no fixed reference points along the way.



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dead reckoning

A stylized illustration of a boat on a sea. The sea is a light blue-grey color with some darker blue-grey waves. In the background, there are dark red mountains or hills. The sky is a light blue color. The overall style is simple and artistic.

jim kacian

dead reckoning

haiku by jim kacyan

with illustrations by the author

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dead reckoning

jim kacyan

driftwood the slight curve of the horizon



paddling through the gravity of another world spring tide

bubbles up through green water the heat

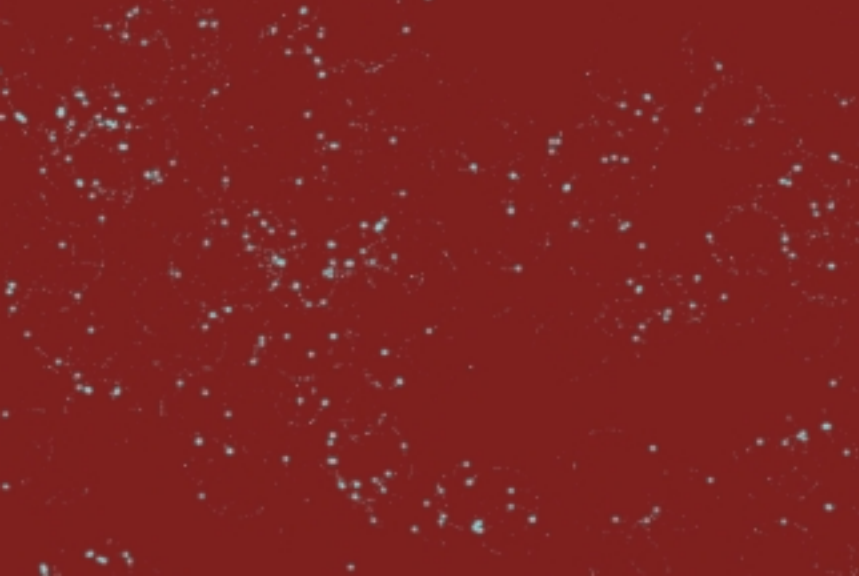
without islands in the dead center loneliness



dead reckoning the moment the tide reverses

a night ship adrift in any darkness

starry night some noise of the Big Bang still left



deep in space the red shift of my mind

long view to Sirius even the past isn't past

in a tent in the rain i become a climate



whiskey i sip it till it loves me

the wait for an owl the second time

by candlelight a mosquito slow with blood



skull held up to the ear the sound of the sea

on the verge of waking my self

The following poems have been previously published:

without islands; Frogpond XXVIII:2

a night ship; NOON 1

in a tent; NOON 2

whiskey; ginyu 25

on the verge; Reeds 2005

Cover image by Cynde Clark; all others by the author