

Two Poems by B.Z. Niditch

On Length of Days

Words fall on me
on length of days
with a gusty wind
on my self-built canoe
rolling on the bluest sea
on unexpected hours
after trekking over back roads
watching cardinals sing
over the Concord bridge
in an open language
while seasonal herons
fly toward the South
for the winter
a woman in red high heels
with a charmingly deep
Russian accent
next to a guy
in a Red Sox shirt
tell me they have lost
their tourist visa and passport
on the last ship
in the harbor cruise
as I speak to a guide for them,
while holding my book
of Emerson's wisdom
on the sandy coast
for a campfire
near my hammock
out in this neighborhood
under the town's light
others will be hearing my sax
play on the white deserted sand

my melodies wash by
a man with a butterfly net
who is reading Nabokov
at the freshly painted gazebo
by a lighthouse luminosity
wanders by these woodwinds
over blanket quilts
I'm picking up strawberries
from my peace arm band.

At My Rock Garden

Six outgrown petals
in a corsage
from my rock garden
as a last summer rose
miraculously
still alive in November
is put on my blue blazer,
my poetry safe house
is not forgotten by time
nor a first woodland love
by adolescent wandering days
here at Cape Cod
reading over my album leafs
in pages of my poems
in a muted Muse day
throwing stones
here in a ice fishing pond
by waiting hedges of vines
thinking of my jazz quartet
composed here
by yellow hyacinth groves
I'm in a Fall blue blazer
with new apple scents
as faint trills from my sax
records in my backyard
along wind swept trees
along the home harbor Bay
by dangling shadows
of now ripened raspberries
on my walking path
holding my life within.

B.Z. Niditch is a poet, playwright, and fiction writer. His work is widely published in journals and magazines

throughout the world, including: *Columbia: A Magazine of Poetry and Art*; *The Literary Review*; *Denver Quarterly*; *Hawaii Review*; *Le Guepard (France)*; *Kadmos (France)*; *Prism International*; *Jejune (Czech Republic)*; *Leopold Bloom (Hungary)*; *Antioch Review*; and *Prairie Schooner*, among others. His newest poetry collection, *Everything, Everywhere*, is available from Penhead Press. He lives in Brookline, Massachusetts.