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Poetry in Place

BRYAN WILSON

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# Atmospheric River

(In a city where rivers float in the sky)

braiding through cedars & buildings  
like a sentence in a poem,  
rivers rise as raindrops.

A city,  
Heron-still —  
staring into Sound  
stones polishing words — storm-galoshing songs.

Before long, river-rain  
makes watercolors of us,

gathers in its clay-blue turbidity:  
vanishing sunbreaks & glaciers,  
the neighborhood breakfast spot,  
beaver's lodge packed with wildflowers,  
stinging green of spring nettles,  
eddies of garlic in a small kitchen  
full of laughter,  
tumbling sediment of dreams — fictions and fishes.

Sometimes, I'm a stone, mossy,  
sometimes awash in whorling passage.

Sometimes, on a ferry  
full of passengers, we greet the water  
that connects us in torrents  
of riverine imagination.

*Bryan Wilson is a writer, illustrator, and educator. He is program manager at the Bureau of Fearless Ideas, where he leads writing and publishing projects with young authors.*

## POETRY IN PLACE

Civic Poet Shin Yu Pai selected 5 poets from the local community for this public poetry project. Poems are installed in Belltown, Little Saigon, the Central District, South Lake Union, Greenwood, South Park, and downtown.

GRAPHIC DESIGN: JAYME YEN



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