

Loving This Burning World: 16 Haiku

Tracks crossing the trail
lead to a deer's bed of snow
under the pine boughs.

(Western Greenway Trail, Waltham, MA, 2/25)

Hiking through soft snow
sinking, slipping, kicking in—
February thaw

(Mt. Wilcox, MA, 2/25)

silent winter woods—
no squirrel chatters, no birds sing—
only just this breeze

(Mt. Wilcox, 2/25)

wind off the iced-in
pond, bringing back colder days—
spring will have to wait.

(Mt. Wilcox, 2/25)

Bright white tail flashes
in the greenbrier—a band of
juncos greet the spring.

(Charles River Path, Newton, MA, 3/25)

October Mountain
in March—hemlock sprigs litter
the snow-crusting trail.

(October Mountain, MA, 3/25)

That scatter of trills—
the heart opens to welcome
the first song sparrow

(Charles River path, Waltham, 3/25)

voices of the brook
flowing strong with spring snowmelt—
singing and drumming

(Sages Ravine, CT, 3/25)

spring tries to green up
doing its best with moss, ferns,
and poverty grass

(Mt. Wilcox 4/25)

by the stream, in full
sun, the year's first trout lilies
already in bloom

(October Mtn, 4/25)

following a path
that's not quite a path—ostrich
ferns, sweet pepper bush

(Outdoor Practice Retreat, August Farm, RI, 5/25)

night sitting: bats flit,
frogs peep, ocean waves thunder,
a campfire, a moon

(Outdoor Practice Retreat, August Farm, 5/25)

camped amid a field
of spring blooms: white witch hobble
and painted trilliums.

(Franconia Brook, NH, 5/25)

beech and birch leafed in—
light green against evergreen,
deeper into spring

(Franconia Brook, 5/25)

Late May—perennials
have dropped their petals. But here's
foam flowers, here's star flowers.

(Congdon shelter, Long Trail, VT, 5/25)

Sawyer Pond in June
sunny and fragrant and warm—
butterflies, summer

(Sawyer Pond, NH, 6/25)