

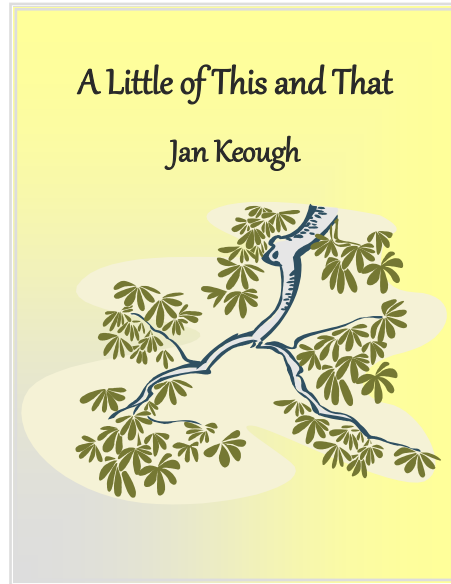
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## Origami Poetry Project

*A Little of This and That*

by Jan Keough © 2009



### AN APRIL'S VIEW

The weeping cherry trees bloom  
In daring white pinks  
On branches that were  
Iced in brown rain  
A month ago.  
I guess they know what they're doing -  
Racing May's foliage call,  
Ignoring April's nasty reputation.

I've seen blossoms fade and fall  
In early spring pretence.  
Their pretty days soon sung silent  
By anxious rainfall that aches  
Every petal from a slow-leafed branch  
Defenseless in too-cold nights.  
While the yet-furrowed soil  
Where worms dream to uncoil  
Lies blameless.

### EINSTEIN, ETC.

From the density of air  
They found the speed of sound.  
From the speed of sound  
They found the speed of light.  
From the speed of light  
They spoke of life—  
Of the speed of it  
And the need of it  
And the hope for  
Understanding it.

### I LOVE MATH

my fingertips know the  
alphabet of numbers.  
counting the odd ones  
got me thru math class  
and a first job  
making change  
at the bagel bakery.  
I still use digits for  
7 plus 5 since twelve  
is more than I can hold  
but not more than I now know.

### WE ARE KNOWN

Even as you read,  
Your thoughts are pressed  
For keeping.  
The looks you send to others  
Are caught in flight.  
Misaid gaps,  
Well-placed glories  
Are swept into storage.  
All are yours.  
Words, feelings,  
The flickering touch  
Cascade around you.  
One seamless spinning  
Spent in faithful attendance,  
Full of obligation,  
Ready to serve  
Until your command releases.

### IT TAKES FORGIVENESS

I see that it takes forgiveness  
To manage time,  
To answer the selfish mind  
Without self-pity.  
I'm letting it all go free -  
Slide downstream and  
Retrieve every word misspent.  
Wanting revenge:  
I'll dis-remember them all,  
One prod, one picturful piece  
At a time until  
Only the husk of past tense  
Lies empty and still.  
I believe that it takes forgiveness.