

**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

An illustration of a small boat on a body of water. In the background, there is a large, light blue silhouette of a person's head and shoulders, looking towards the right. The water is depicted with light blue and white brushstrokes, suggesting movement and reflection. The overall style is artistic and minimalist.

jim kacian

**dead reckoning**

haiku by jim kaciao

with illustrations by the author

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**dead reckoning**

jim kaciao

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

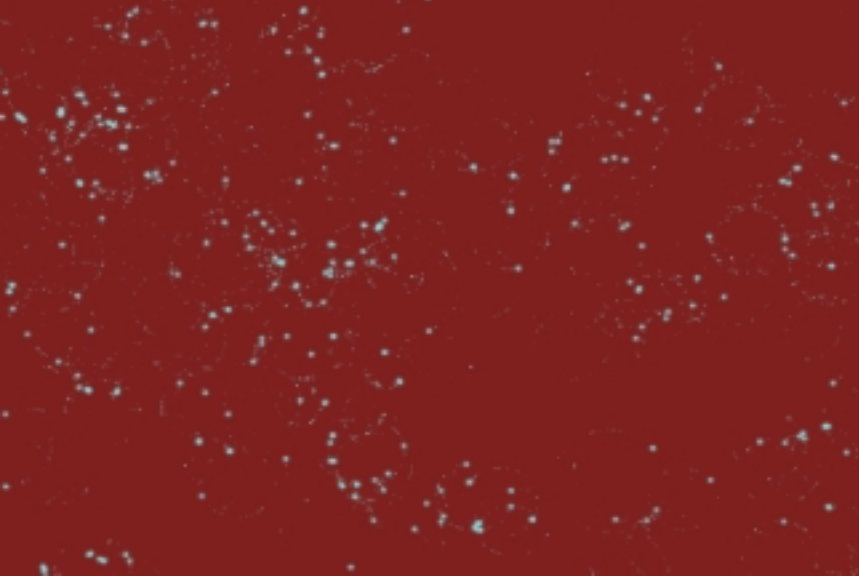


*dead reckoning the moment the tide reverses*

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