



Image from Etsy

Dennis Ross

Sacred Songs

I sometimes still hear  
the sacred voices of childhood,  
tree frogs and song sparrows,  
half aware of their singing.

More often it is the  
drowning cacophony  
of human voices inside me.

I need the sound  
of a small glass bell  
rung by a young child,  
or the soft crunch of river ice  
under my boots as I wander  
downstream along the silver  
path of the full moon,  
or perhaps the puzzling  
silence of a cicada shell  
clinging to my hand,  
an empty sound  
like the music of the stars  
on a cold winter night.

These sacred songs  
would silence  
the cacophony within,  
would resonate  
in my deep unknown,  
chiming ancient connections,  
life beyond breathing.

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Dennis Ross, a retired professor of physics, has published widely. His chapbook, *Relatives and Other Strangers*, is available from Finishing Line Press.