



MARCH 2019

THE UMBRELLA

by Jeffrey Hantover

Sunday afternoon in Colombo
this poem, too poor for a hearse, even a cart,
heads straight towards me on the Galle Road.
Starched white shoulders bear the coffin.
A tall man holds high a large black umbrella
to shade the dead who learns too late
the cool comfort of gestures
wise and impractical.

Photo: "Wired" by Joelle Chmiel
unstamatic.info



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OBSIDIAN

by Carol McMahan

For years we tried to fit you
into space designated as *son* but you

were viscous and assumed a shape
unlike those in other homes. You became

obsidian and I cut myself upon you.
Cooled to perfection and scalpel-sharp

you sliced yourself from the bone.
In the name of love I bled my own

life thinking it was the medicine
needed to suture you back home.

Art: "Missing a Moment That Never Happened"
by Christina Klein

Jeffrey Hantover is a published poet and novelist living in New York.

Joelle Chmiel, winner of StreetProjections 2018 contest from PhotoWerkBerlin and winner second place of Monochrome Awards 2018, grew up in Zürich, Switzerland where she graduated medical and dental school and made her PhD in Neuropsychopharmacology before working as a physician. Since 2018 she dedicates herself full-time to photography. Her work can be viewed on <https://www.artlimited.net/m79d5144a> or <https://lensculture.com/joelle-chmiel>

Carol McMahon is a teacher whose work has been published, or is forthcoming, in various journals (Prodigal, Clockhouse, Painted Bride Quarterly, The Rumpus, Poet Lore) and has a chapbook, *On Any Given Day*, published by FootHills Press (2006). McMahon received an MFA in Poetry from the Rainier Writing Workshop in Washington State and, when she is not with 11-year-olds, spends her time either running or rowing.

Growing up on a farm in rural Kansas, **Christina** has always been an eager explorer. On the farm, there was always something new to discover and endless materials to build with. Her upbringing in this world of possibility developed her creative mind.