



BOOK : ONE FLEW OVER THE HOSPITAL BED

AUTHOR : WENDY WEBB (THE NAKED POET OF EAST ANGLIA)

PUBLISHER : WENDY WEBB BOOKS

PRICE : £2.00 (stapled, 30 pages)

Reviewer : Idris Caffrey

The majority of these poems (31 out of a total of 34) were written during a two week period where the poet was in hospital and tell us of her experiences. This is a brave thing to attempt and there is a freshness in these poems along with the obvious pitfalls of writing at such speed.

There are some good poems here such as “Transmigration”, “Laughter in the sun” and “The Itch”. Her poems are accesable and often quirky but she has an ability to capture the moment in a very original way.

My particular favourite poem was “Path To Folly”. I’m probably sticking my neck out here but suspect that this particular poem was one of the three written outside her hospitalisation period. It shows what the poet is capable of when the poem is given time to breath.

I have no hesitation in quoting this poem in its entirety or recommending this most interesting collection –

#### PATH TO FOLLY

Now, more than ever, it seems rich to live,  
while birds are ringing heaven into cheer  
with paradisal moments scenting near:  
as path buds folly, nature, blooming, gives.

Now, more than ever, magnolia falls  
and daffodils are vanishing beneath  
spring grass and shooting, rooting, suckling earth;  
while tulip roundly blooms and, stripping, fails.

More than ever, bluebells tinkle woodland dells,  
a startled pheasant clacks his castanets;  
shrill children shriek delight-charged bayonets,  
beside the lake, where croquet clicks and dawdles.

More folly now, while birds sing in the sky,  
where heaven clicks and clacks, and shrieks and dies.