

# Sun-Optikos

"Seeing the Whole Together"

a collection of poetic insight & inspiration  
for spiritual awakening

No. 38 - Summer 2005

[www.geocities.com/SeeingTheWholeTogether](http://www.geocities.com/SeeingTheWholeTogether)

## The Size of Milwaukee

by Antler

If the Sun takes up 99.9% of the matter  
of the Solar System,  
And if all the planets, moons, asteroids and comets  
take up 1/10th of 1%,  
The Earth, after the total of all the matter  
of the Sun  
And all the matter of the comets, asteroids,  
moons and planets is taken into account,  
Represents only one millionth of 1%  
of the matter of the Solar System,  
And if you take away all the space between  
the electrons and the nucleus  
Of all the atoms that comprise  
the matter of the Earth  
It turns out 99% of the Earth is actually  
empty space,  
It turns out the Earth is actually  
the size of Wisconsin,  
Wisconsin is actually  
the size of Milwaukee,  
And Milwaukee is actually  
the size of a poppyseed.

On journeys through the States we start,  
(Ay through the world, urged by these songs,  
Sailing henceforth to every land, to every sea,)  
We willing learners of all, teachers of all, and lovers of all.

We have watch'd the seasons dispensing themselves and passing one,  
And have said, Why should not a man or woman do as much  
as the seasons, and effuse as much?

We dwell a while in every city and town,  
We pass through Kanada, the North-east,  
the vast valley of the Mississippi, and the Southern States,  
We confer on equal terms with each of the States,  
We make trial of ourselves and invite men and women to hear,  
We say to ourselves, Remember, fear not, be candid,  
promulge the body and soul,  
Dwell a while and pass on, be copious, temperate, chaste, magnetic,  
And what you effuse may then return as the seasons return,  
And may be just as much as the seasons.

Walt Whitman

[www.whitmanarchive.org](http://www.whitmanarchive.org)



"The spiritual and the sensual will  
never go out of style on this planet"

– Carlos Santana



"I hate to advocate drugs, alcohol,  
violence, or insanity to anyone,  
but they've always worked for me."

– Hunter S. Thompson

(b.1937-d.2005)



in my glass of red wine  
fruitfly drowning–  
my dipped finger a ladder

Dayz in Passion

[www.dayzhaiku.blog.com](http://www.dayzhaiku.blog.com)



The sun sheds its light on everthing  
and everybody. It does not shine only  
on things that are beautiful or useful.  
Its blessings reach every creature in  
this world. God, the Creator of the  
sun and everything else, gives His  
blessings to all without any distinc-  
tion. If we are poor, God is with us. If  
we are rich, then also God is with us.  
Ugly or beautiful, white or black, all  
are under the protection and love of  
one *Compassionate God*.

–from **The Baha'i Message**

[www.bahai.com](http://www.bahai.com)

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This issue of *Sun-Optikos* is dedicated to Dr. Walter Polner (b.1927-d.2005)

## I Am A Pilgrim

I am a pilgrim, and a stranger,  
traveling through this wearisome land.  
I got a home in that yonder city, good Lord,  
and it's not made, not made by hand.

I got a mother, a sister and brother,  
who have gone to that sweet land.  
I'm determined to go and see them, good lord,  
all over on that distant shore.

I'm going down to that river of Jordan,  
just to bathe my weary soul.  
If I could touch but the hem of His garment,  
well I believe it would make me whole.

## American Folk Spritual

This is our country here as far as you can see no matter which way you walk or no matter what spot of it you stand on. And when you have crossed her as many times as I have you will see as many ugly things about her as pretty things. You will hear whole gangs of travelers and settlers arguing about her. What she is, how she come to be, what you are supposed to do here. And you will hear some argue at you that she is so beautiful you are supposed to spend your life just feeling her pretty parts, sucking in her sweetest breezes and tasting her fairest odors, looking at her brightest colored scenes, and I would say that gang has the wrong notion. And there are some bunches that tell you she is all ugly and all dirty, that there is nothing good about her, nothing free, nothing clean, that she is all slums, shacks, rot, filth, stink, and bad odors, loud words of bitter flavors, well, this herd is big and I heard them often and I heard them loud, but I come to think that they too was just as wrong as the first outfit. Because I seen the pretty and I seen the ugly and it was because I knew the pretty part that I wanted to change the ugly part. Because I hated the dirty part that I knew how to feel the love for the cleaner part. I looked in a million of her faces and eyes, and I told myself there was a look on that face that was good, if I could see it there, in back of all of the shades and shadows of fear and doubt and ignorance and tangles of debts and worries. And I guess it is these things that make our country look all lopsided to some of us, lopped over onto the good and easy side or over onto the bad and the hard side. I know that the people that run our desks and offices got so full of the desire to grab enough money to run away and hide on, that they let this thought run them, instead of the bigger plan, well, this has always been a hard word to say, but it could very truly be that our office people are doing the best they know how to do. But we had ought to teach ourselves better and higher than this before we run ourselves and put ourselves into our offices.

**Woody Guthrie** (b.1912-d.1967)  
[www.woodyguthrie.org](http://www.woodyguthrie.org)



## Sun-Optikos Publications

P.O. Box 1503  
Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1503  
U.S.A.

