## Poem Longitudinal

As your summer dress crinkles

All water makes ripples

Hear it trickle

Hear it trickle Watch it make ripples As your winter woollies prickle And that familiar pain briefly cripples Cup it in shaky hands like hourglass sands Feel time slipping away into a forgotten past Feel cold and alone yet prepared to take a stand To fight the good fights and feel better at long last Hear the underdog howling at all phases of the moon Smell an evening meal that's nearly ready in the kitchen Continue smiling and laughing and whistling a sweet tune While battered spirits take off like bulletproof clay pigeons Those cogs in your body's clock begin to turn less erratically In time with your calmer mind as you lay there so angelically Stare at this ceiling in half-light; envision a view thru a skylight See stars beyond a half moon, & consider what'll happen soon Reread a list of your life goals and consider each one logically It's very hard to strike gold but you will do so metaphorically Sense your life expectancy lengthen smidgeon by smidgeon Cast shadows on a cautious optimism in the late afternoon Give thanks for your GP, medical specialists, and surgeons See this black pond reflect the white light of a half moon Do not forget your own part when new actors are cast Remain smart, funny, kind-hearted and in command Learn how a fish out of water can still stand fast Scatter sands until the new moon is at hand Until that old pain no longer cripples

> **Michael J Leach** Adelaide, SA

mleach11@hotmail.com

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