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Three Poems

Scott T. Starbuck

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Dad stole my tongue,
bruised my rib,
knocked all the fingers
out of my head

for a while
until I traveled to Mt. Hood
and found them
waiting

in rain-green pools
of the upper Salmon River.

Blind Spot

My student says
her man beats her
out of love
and that makes it okay.

I say “What if it were
your daughter?”
“I’d kill him,” she stares,
and when I ask

“What’s wrong
with this picture?”
she asks
“What picture?”

Ant

The ant moves
by an internal ant lantern
mysterious in origin
as any star.

The fact you can
read this
is as much a miracle
as a rhinoceros.

You who feel small
and insignificant
in your skin: breathe.

SCOTT T. STARBUCK read poems from his new book *Industrial Oz* < <http://goo.gl/diJa0L> > to over 500 activists at a Dec. 12, 2015, Rally for Climate Justice in Balboa Park, San Diego. The book was noted by Bill McKibben as "rousing, needling, haunting." Thomas Rain Crowe added it "just may be the most cogent and sustained collection of quality eco-activist poetry ever written in this culture, this country." Starbuck was a Friends of William Stafford Scholar at the 2014 "Speak Truth to Power" Fellowship of Reconciliation Seabeck Conference, and has held residencies at Artsmith on Orcas Island, The Sitka Center for Art and Ecology, and Playa in Oregon. He wrote The City of Depoe Bay's Memorial Against Offshore Oil Drilling to the Oregon Governor's Ocean Resources Management Task Force in 1989 to help stop oil rigs off the Oregon Coast.