

The Voice Within: ***A Reflection on Seeds of Contemplation***

By **Lawrence Janssen**

Driftwood, fallen fallow does not portend
Time immigrants between eternities
Imaginary borders to defend
Deserted dead end roads our royalties
A spinning wheel of capricious voices
Analytical questions in disdain
Compulsive cauldron of inner choices
An isolated island preordained
A rigidity of self-absorption
Or an inner voice we cannot contain
Whispering thoughts beyond our description
Until we separate and join again
Through fallen seed and illumined silence
We hear a voice of unending presence



Lawrence Janssen

Lawrence Janssen, a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, is a registered architect and has designed a church for the Maronite Community. His poem “No Knowing” was featured in the Winter 2012 issue of *The Merton Seasonal* and his painting of Thomas Merton, cover art for the Summer 2011 *Merton Seasonal*, is in the collection of the Bellarmine University Merton Center. He studied for seven years with the Dominican Order.