

# Alec Soth's Archived Blog

February 15, 2007

## Friday Poem

Filed under: [poetry](#) — alecsothblog @ 11:22 pm

Rachel and I had our first date half a life ago – Valentines Day, 1986. In the four years we've had children, I've missed every Valentines Day. I blew it again this week. In honor of my sweet bride, here is a poem:

### **How My Wife Saves the Day**

By Jorn Ake\*

My wife says, little brick, wake up.

I make some coffee  
and put on my pants  
for one more day.

She says, my cow, paper's here.

I drink my coffee  
and spend too much time  
on an article about dung beetles.

She says, sweet, backyard's on fire.

I go outside  
and stand in the center.

These are my flowers, I say,  
red as they are  
they are you.

I am your wife, she says, wave,  
wave for my red camera.

\*Jorn Ake is the author of a fantastic volume of poetry: [Asleep in the Lightning Fields](#). Jorn is also a photographer. He is one of the few authors to have produced his own cover photograph:



ASLEEP in the  
LIGHTNING FIELDS

Jorn Ake

WINNER OF THE 2001 X.J. KENNEDY POETRY PRIZE

#### 4 Comments

1. Alec, you just made me spend a few dollars on a book, but that's always a pleasure...Happy Anniversary

*Comment by [Velibor Bozovic](#) — February 17, 2007 @ [6:17 pm](#)*

2. Alec, you just made me spend a few dollars on a book, but that's always a pleasure...Happy Anniversary

*Comment by [Velibor Bozovic](#) — February 17, 2007 @ [6:17 pm](#)*

3. Very nice, thanks for the recommendation.

*Comment by [meica](#) — February 17, 2007 @ [8:13 pm](#)*

4. Thank you for sharing Jorn Ake's poem. It is a strong reminder of how entwined my wife and I are. She has been my subject for many years.

I'll be riding the Vespa to the local bookstore to buy the book.

Steve Williams  
Scooter in the Sticks

*Comment by [Steve Williams](#) — February 18, 2007 @ [9:40 am](#)*