

Now Then

Kim Stanley Robinson, Donald Wesling, Carrol B. Fleming, and T.C. Marshall

From across the Sierras to the Caribbean to the backyard minutiae of “home,” these poems travel through time and place.

Arranged in four movements—Summer, Autumn, Winter, and Spring—this collection reads like a yearlong meditation, each season a chorus of voices capturing the spirituality of landscape. The four poets first met in Donald Wesling’s class at UC San Diego in 1972. Nearly fifty years later, during the pandemic, they began exchanging poems in the spirit of the “Buddhist dailies” of Qing dynasty widows. From this renewed correspondence emerged a work that bridges decades.

Each poet contributes half a dozen poems to every season, their voices distinct yet intertwined, a conversation that traverses distance and memory with the subtle elegance of a string quartet. The Now of these pages, 2020 to 2024, resonates with the Then of the years between 1972 and 2020, revealing how friendship, art, and attention to the natural world deepen with time.

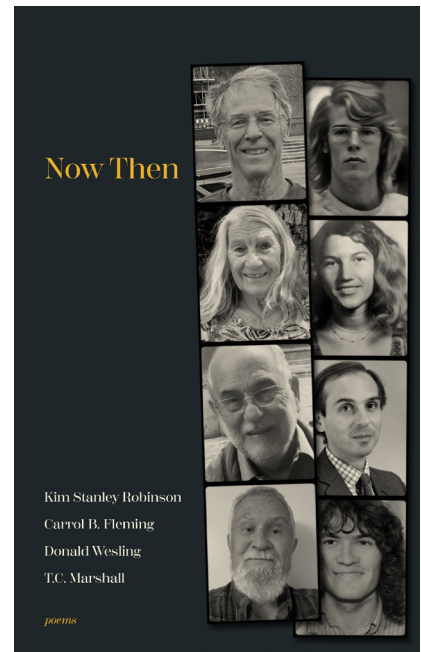
ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Kim Stanley Robinson is an award-winning science fiction writer known for the *Mars* trilogy. His most recent works are *The Ministry for the Future* and *The High Sierra: A Love Story*. He lives in Davis, California.

Donald Wesling is a professor emeritus of literature at the University of California, San Diego, and the author of *Animal Perception and Literary Language* and *The Joys and Sorrows of Imaginary Persons*. He lives in La Jolla, California.

Carrol B. Fleming is a poet and writer, back in San Diego after many years in the Caribbean. She is the author of *Adventuring in the Caribbean: The Sierra Club Guide to Forty Islands of the Caribbean Sea*.

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SUBJECT CATEGORY

Poetry: American, Political & Protest,
Animals & Nature

PRICE

\$15.00

ISBN

979-8-88744-224-2

PAGE COUNT

96

SIZE

5 x 8

FORMAT

Paperback

PUBLICATION DATE

12/01/2026

US DISTRIBUTION

Publishers Group West

1-866-400-5351

www.pgw.com • ips@ingramcontent.com

CANADA DISTRIBUTION

Publishers Group Canada

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UK DISTRIBUTION

Turnaround Publisher Services Ltd

020-8829-3000 • orders@turnaround-uk.com

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