

# ***Striding, Flowing, Soaring, Striding***

*By: Avalon Melissas*

*the water strider drifts down the river  
it dips and rises with the water  
the drip of a dried waterfall  
echoes to the insect*

*the other striders glide  
on the glassy water in swarms  
like a feather on the water  
until the current rages down*

*the trout spots the insect  
then swallows and flows with the river  
a school moving water moving water within water  
the fish fight upward against the flow  
until a trout jumps*

*the king fisher sights the fish  
soaring simultaneously with the endless surge  
it dives, catches, then climbs the air  
the loner bird swoops and ascends  
being the predator of the river  
he looks overall of the river  
tree to water to tree is all that's seen*

*the bird grows old  
plummets down to the water and drifts  
a fly eats of the fallen body until it's completely saturated in water  
drifting on the surface the fly floats*

*until the strider hovers on water  
it takes the fly, then moves  
back to its swarm  
moving as groups with the stream  
passing schools of flowing trout  
missing the king of fishers soaring above  
then the water strider drifts down the river*