

# BEING WAKEFUL

Poems by

Robert H. Deluty



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Being Wakeful



*Our duty is wakefulness, the fundamental  
condition of life itself. The unseen, the unheard,  
the untouchable is what weaves the fabric of our  
see-able universe together.*

Robin Craig Clark



at the funeral,  
learning Great-Grandpa Christian  
was born Chaim

his longtime patient  
attributing all her gains  
to Oprah and Phil

Augusta O'Keefe  
thanking her Mom and Dad  
for the monogram

learning she was fired  
for telling her supervisor  
*Thanks for dropping in*

learning he was fired  
for questioning his boss  
*Are you pregnant?*

at the zoo, a child  
wishing she could color in  
the zebras

at the zoo, a prof  
wishing he could teach the owls  
to say *Whom*

telling his colleague  
on chemo she resembles  
Charles Barkley

John and Karen Ling,  
duckpin champions, naming  
their son, Beau

Ben and Mary House,  
cattle ranchers, christening  
their son, Porter

gravely ill elder  
whispering to her grandson  
*Your shirt and tie clash*

Camp Sunshine . . .  
the thunderstorm triggering  
a grand mal seizure

Urban Lee Brenner,  
a young actor, preferring  
to use U. L.

her four year-old  
insisting grapes are better  
than scissors

asked to spell *jersey*,  
a Brooklyn girl replying  
*I'm from New York*

firing squad leader  
saying to the condemned man  
*Too-da-loo*

wishing their daughter  
would not call them Momentum  
and Popsicle

the CEO  
preferring heartlessness  
to stupidity

about to crash,  
the first-time flyer cursing  
her travel agent

World Cup match . . . his wife,  
watching Greece play Ghana, asks  
*Which team is Greece?*

characterizing

her husband as *handsome . . .*

*but in a bad way*

Sue Simpson wishing

they could name their baby

after her Dad, Bart

her boyfriend's mother

pointing out he's not evil,

just moronic

parents regarding

their thirteen-year-old son

as one vast stomach

parents regarding

their fourteen-year-old daughter

as one mammoth gland

Jo Zeff begging  
her fiancé, Paul Goebbels,  
to change his name

in her dressing room  
the teen actress taking out  
a pacifier

irked by his children  
watching the Sox on T.V. . . .  
*Play outside. Or read!*

their grandmother  
asking the Hollywood star  
to sign her neck

the ten year-old  
inquiring which is better:  
*kind or competent*

Christmas letter . . .

their black sheep son receiving  
one short sentence

Christmas letter . . .

their black sheep daughter having  
her name misspelled

teenagers mocking  
the man disfigured saving  
elders in a fire

young Gilles Beauchamp  
demanding that his teachers  
call him Gil Beechum

young Jack Rose  
insisting that his classmates  
call him Jacques Rosé

Grandma pondering  
what good a thumbtack does  
in a teen's face

July 4<sup>th</sup> photo . . .  
three generations dressed  
as firecrackers

pre World Cup match . . .  
Uncle Norman boycotting  
Belgian waffles

pre World Cup match . . .  
Aunt Ruth refusing to spurn  
Belgian chocolates

*I love you, Lizzie . . .*  
the three year-old responding  
*Good, gimme candy*

his child questioning  
how Mama kangaroos clean  
poo from their pouches

her child querying  
whether Mama sharks' smiles  
frighten their babies

the second grader  
assuring his grandparents  
he can't be trusted

Madame Letrien  
explaining it's not pronounced  
*la-trine*

Irving Katz telling  
his kids they can eat shrimp off  
someone else's plate

speech pathologist  
admitting he finds mimes  
depressing

psychiatrist  
admitting she finds mimes  
terrifying

*Karen?* . . . new students  
Caren, Karyn, and Qarinne  
raising their hands

rookie firefighter,  
battling a raging blaze,  
is struck by lightning

the obese man  
wishing he'd dream of women,  
not burgers and fries

a Jewish boy  
asking why God put bacon  
inside pigs

wishing her father,  
dead at thirty-six, had lived  
to have a twilight

Max Cohen naming  
his dachshund, H.N., for  
Hebrew National

trying to converse  
with tenants who call them  
*devil-opers*

death camp survivor  
begging for just one night  
without terrors

renowned scholar  
wanting only to be known  
as a fine teacher

renowned jurist  
wanting only to be known  
as a good man

the dying elder  
uttering her last word:  
*Wheeee!*

asked *How are you?*,  
their grandson responding  
*Awe-inspiring*

the eighty year-old  
asking his nieces, nephews  
what's retirement like

urging his sons  
never to wear loafers:  
*Bad symbolism*

able Katherine  
referring to herself as  
Do-It-Yourself Kit

summer reunion . . .  
cousins rating each other  
on self-centeredness

summer reunion . . .  
uncles rating each other  
on toe ugliness

summer reunion . . .  
great-aunts rating each other  
on dye-job success

the stroke victim  
hearing LeBron James complain  
about his contract

the burn victim  
watching Gwyneth Paltrow whine  
about her stardom

mid-storm . . . the teen,  
trying to save gas, turns off  
his windshield wipers

fifth graders guessing  
the number of toothpicks  
in an old oak tree

English professor  
noting her favorite line:  
*Shut up he explained*

Sunday School class . . .

a child confusing Old Nick  
with St. Nick

autistic boy

nearing his third straight hour on  
the merry-go-round

major league all-star

swinging inside-out, claiming  
*Pulling's no challenge*

therapy patient

wearing a low-cut gown  
for her first session

sixth grade scholar

insisting that the word *I*  
is a palindrome

upon marrying  
Patrick Nunn, Faith Barr opting  
to hyphenate

upon wedding  
Ed Bacon, Hope Moore choosing  
not to hyphenate

shunning yarmulkes,  
teenaged Yeshiva rebels  
sporting Turbans

zaftig Aunt Rose  
attempting to justify  
her fifth *Twix*

comedian's wife  
confessing she does not get  
half the things he says

at the fair, a girl  
seeking a rollercoaster  
that's slow, flat

at the fair, a boy  
seeking a Polish sausage  
with cream filling

*What's a contraption? . . .*  
the nearly-deaf elder telling  
his grandchild, *Can't*

Connor presenting  
his Mom, Nanami, and  
his Dad, Hikaru

Christine presenting  
her Mom, Mary Agnes, and  
her Dad, Abdul-Haq

neuroscience prof  
explaining why he believes  
in miracles

astrophysics prof  
explaining why she believes  
in horoscopes

math teacher signing  
the love letter to her spouse  
 $QT\pi$

in class . . . screaming  
at students in shorts, flip-flops:  
*This isn't the beach!*

post World Cup . . .  
Brazilian grief counselors  
working overtime

the old fireman  
explaining why he loathes  
Independence Day

telling her young son  
to shout *Scram!* if a stranger  
says *Hello*

linguists debating  
the classiest synonym  
for *defecating*

first time in his home,  
learning her gorgeous boyfriend  
is a snake hoarder

ALS victim  
calling his affliction  
simply *Lou*

Grandma regarding  
slouching to be as wrong  
as backstabbing

Grandpa regarding  
sneezing as acceptable  
as belching

geography class . . .  
explaining when it's all right  
to say *Guinea*

geography class . . .  
pointing out the correct way  
to pronounce *Niger*

seated five month-old  
tipping over to one side,  
giggling with delight

*Life's a gift, son . . .*

their angry teen responding

*Yeah, a pair of socks*

sweltering June day . . .

two brilliant Yale deans sporting

dark suits and ties

advising his child

to speak louder when

she isn't sure

in a London pub

the Bronx man stating soccer

is deadly dull

dinner for eight . . .

Gramps speaking as six others

check their iPhones

vegan optimist  
shocked to discover *sanguine*  
also means *bloody*

Bev Silverman learns  
*Silverfish*, her new nickname,  
are insects

from his hospice bed  
telling the grandkids to spurn  
country music

from her hospice bed  
urging the grandkids to shun  
canned potatoes

ESL student  
amazed finding out *rent* is  
its own opposite

minor league catchers  
describing themselves as  
baseball's working poor

adjunct professors  
describing themselves as  
Baylor's working poor

their father finding  
women who drive big rigs  
alluring

their father finding  
men who like to cuddle  
deviant

*Am I your world? . . .*

her fiancé responding

*Yeah, O.K.*

in denial,  
hearing her child's condition  
as *great*, not *grave*

health club patron  
wearing his mauve bathing cap  
in the café

grossly overweight,  
Susan Maureen Ives hating  
her nickname, Sue Mo

wishing his rash  
had not evoked an *Oy!*  
from the doctor

Great-Aunt Beulah  
complaining she never knew  
*the good old days*

## Decorum

Before attending  
a fellow kindergartner's  
birthday party, Hannah –  
the tiniest girl in her class –  
is dressed by her mother in  
a new, frilly pink dress,  
seashell-white tights,  
shiny black shoes, and  
multi-colored bows,  
ribbons, and bracelets.

The birthday girl's older brother  
answers the door when  
Hannah's mother knocks  
and announces for all to hear:  
*Hey, a lady just arrived  
and she brought her doll.*



*A string of excited, fugitive, miscellaneous pleasures is not happiness; happiness resides in imaginative reflection and judgment, when the picture of one's life, or of human life, as it truly has been or is, satisfies the will, and is gladly accepted.*

George Santayana



informing Granddad  
his childhood synagogue  
is now *Al's Soul Food*

informing Grandma  
her childhood ice cream parlor  
is now *Spike's Tattoos*

informing Great-Gramps  
his childhood five-and-dime store  
is now *Weed City*

the diner's waitress  
demanding that her patrons  
avoid the meatloaf

re-christening  
his neighbor, Zoltan Duda,  
Zip-a-Dee

the doctor praying  
for her demented father  
peace of mind

a dying boy  
hoping, in the afterlife,  
angels play Skee-Ball

a dying man  
hoping, in the afterlife,  
bodies can be leased

Nana recalling  
her greatest foes: stepmothers  
and thin, blonde classmates

Pop-Pop recalling  
his greatest foes: drill sergeants  
and grade school nuns

visiting Paris,  
a child asking how to say  
*Ken Burke* in French

his blind date  
sporting a too-tight tee shirt  
with hands on the breasts

her blind date  
showing off his new tattoo,  
*Never Don't Give Up*

Clemson football fan  
irking classmates, refusing  
to paint his face

the priest requesting  
that no selfies be taken  
at the funeral

convincing his son  
Napoleon was nicknamed  
by pals *The Napster*

convincing his niece  
Attila the Hun was known  
to friends as *Tillie*

April Fool's Day . . .  
two *Good Humor* trucks crashing  
in a Queens tunnel

Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> . . .  
the new *Porsche* smashing into  
a *Goodwill* van

black-or-white thinker  
tells his shrink how very much  
he longs for gray

casino worker  
noting he loves dealing,  
loathes shuffling

his wife  
equating getting a tan  
with getting in shape

Blue Jay shortstop  
stating he's not in a slump . . .  
*I'm just not hitting*

city street corner . . .  
the woman begging for change  
has on nail polish

a new immigrant  
learning he lives in the state  
judged *Most Depressing*

starlet's mother  
begging her to do one film  
fully clothed

young actor's father  
begging him to do one film  
for which he gets paid

late June, two elders  
debate the best smell: cut grass,  
the beach or grilled meat

fearing  
her analyst's anger if  
she asks for advice

fearing  
her surgeon's abandonment  
if she voices doubt

Judge Jacob Goldman  
eyeing tattooed swastikas  
on the defendant

finding out  
his friend's *gun-related death*  
was a suicide

high school Schadenfreude . . .  
observing the prized student  
receive a C+

highbrow Schadenfreude . . .  
watching the Nobel winner  
stumble on T.V.

highway Schadenfreude . . .  
spotting the cops pull over  
a *Jaguar* driver

child quarterback  
noting he'd do much better  
with a small, round ball

child running back  
asking his opponents  
to stop him nicely

child wide receiver  
requesting, just one time,  
**not** to *go long*

sibling landscapers  
referring to themselves as  
brothers-in-lawn

her spouse believing  
a Wrigley Field hot dog beats  
a steak at *Ruth's Chris*

convincing himself  
the saintly girlfriend he dumped  
is deeply disturbed

an atheist  
watching Notre Dame/Baylor,  
not caring who wins

a Marylander  
watching the Red Sox/Yankees,  
wishing both could lose

Monday, 12:00 p.m. . . .  
scolding the student who said  
*Good morning*

Thursday, 5:00 p.m. . . .  
blasting the student who said  
*Have a nice weekend*

a teen persuading  
younger sibs the Lord's full name  
is Jesus H. Christ

a teen persuading  
younger sibs that moly  
is, indeed, holy

polygrapher  
dreaming Colonel Jessup  
tells her the truth

auctioneer  
dreaming Don Corleone  
makes him an offer

*Tootsie Roll* maker  
dreaming Lieutenant Kojak  
says he loves her

married morticians  
referring to their cars  
as *his and hearse*

TV host  
planning how she can best  
ramp up the heat

radio host  
planning how he can best  
ramp up the hate

Liz and Bill Ford,  
Vassar profs, naming their child  
Fidel Che

Beth and Saul Levy,  
Princeton profs, naming their child  
Yasser Gamal

struggling, high-paid Met  
demanding that New York fans  
boo him more loudly

young Honoria  
overhearing her name rhymed  
with *gonorrhoea*

April 15<sup>th</sup> . . .  
the CPA buying Scotch  
for April 16th

christening  
their tattoo removal shop  
*A Change of Art*

informing their son  
children who get *Ds* are banned  
from Disneyland

questioned about  
his team's execution, the coach  
stating *Yes, kill them*

a Chicago shrink  
asserting lifelong Cub fans  
are clearly deranged

95<sup>th</sup> birthday . . .  
Great-Grandma receiving  
an archery set

100<sup>th</sup> birthday . . .  
Great-Grandpa receiving  
a pogo stick

teaching his nephews  
how to check out women  
without leering

black hole scholar  
devouring with delight  
a *Milky Way*

*Cabaret* actor  
sharing with his co-star  
a *Kit Kat*

the cynic  
loving above all candies  
*Snickers*

three teens debating  
which are cooler: guillotines  
or electric chairs

three teens debating  
which is worse: going to church  
or school detention

the dean attempting  
to say with a straight face  
*Students bring me joy*

the pol struggling  
to utter without smirking  
*I'm here to serve*

post-crash . . .  
his new sports car resembling  
a concertina

post-cyclone . . .  
her new house resembling  
a Cubist sculpture

Tucson traffic jam . . .  
watching the lizard pass them  
on the road's shoulder

at *Unilever* . . .

describing her job as  
researching stink

at *Bristol-Myers* . . .

describing his job as  
studying stool

tough-as-nails Marine  
wanting both knee replacements  
done at the same time

the lawyer asking  
her neo-Nazi clients  
to be nice in court

black historian  
feeling strangely unsettled  
moving to Lynchburg

grinning as she learns  
there are calcium and iron  
in a *Chunky*

beaming as he reads  
there are four grams of protein  
in a *Baby Ruth*

Aunt Syl describing  
her handsome new doctor  
as *gush-worthy*

his student asking  
whether ants appreciate  
their fragility

her student asking  
whether mules are stubborn  
by choice

two girls discussing  
which they would rather be:  
teal or turquoise

two boys discussing  
which they would rather be:  
dust or dirt

his granddaughter  
asserting the word *the*  
is underrated

Pol Pot survivor  
noting his folks did not die:  
*They were murdered*

at lunch, overhears  
*Thousands killed in Chinese quake . . .*  
keeps telling his joke

asking the florist  
for a bouquet that smells nice  
but isn't pretty

the dean informing  
a freshman how she **should**  
pronounce her last name

career soldier  
explicating why scars  
outclass tattoos

answering the knock,  
Great-Gran greeting the postman  
topless

answering the knock,  
Great-Gramps greeting the sheriff  
bottomless

Lehigh sophomore  
informing his folks he's known  
as the campus slut

rotund Aunt Maude  
fuming that her given name  
rhymes with *broad*

ending the affair  
upon learning he rides  
a unicycle

ending the affair  
upon learning she snacks  
on canned clams

explaining  
to the new Mom her child's death  
is part of God's plan

two agnostics  
seething that their son wedded  
an atheist

on the warpath  
discovering that his niece  
married a Quaker

first time in the house  
of his girlfriend's folks, causing  
a toilet flood

classics prof beams  
learning his newborn nephew  
is named Horace

a Catholic boy  
inquiring whether hell  
has a zip code

the cop demanding  
that his daughter's fiancé  
shed the puce flip-flops

down by forty  
a Knick wishing there were  
a pro *mercy rule*

the Marine's young son  
asking where General Motors  
is serving

a sixth grader  
beginning his poem  
*My parents suck*

an eighth grader  
beginning her poem  
*Moreover*

Grandpa confessing  
he's always found truth-telling  
too taxing

Nana confiding  
she's always found knitting  
better than sex

the British farmer  
presenting his dog Higgins  
and pig Malion

the French farmer  
introducing his horse  
D'oeuvre

realizing  
Dad uses *love* for food,  
not for family



*Think big thoughts, but relish small pleasures.*

H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

*That man is rich whose pleasures are the cheapest.*

Henry David Thoreau



midtown Manhattan . . .  
the homeless man opening  
a beach umbrella

downtown Detroit . . .  
the homeless woman holding  
a pink parasol

the four year-old  
explaining why her parties  
must exclude parents

describing a lei  
as a bloomer one dons  
headfirst

stormy night . . .  
the bodybuilder clutching  
his stuffed panda

2:00 a.m., dreaming  
the Steelers draft Sam Goldstein  
from Brandeis

4:00 a.m., dreaming  
the Seahawks draft Yves Marceau  
from the Sorbonne

VIP visit . . .  
traffic reporters noting  
*gawker delays*

a little leaguer  
questioning why home plate  
isn't called fourth base

punctuating  
his twenty-first birthday  
stealing a cop car

city bus stop . . .  
an elder telling strangers  
her life story

subway station . . .  
a two year-old telling strangers  
about his poops

while learning  
via cellphone that he's broke,  
totaling his car

newlywed asking  
whether a tight wedding ring  
can cause gangrene

parents choosing  
a pink coffin for their child  
shot in a drive-by

their son's girlfriend  
noting she loves skydiving  
onto mattresses

their daughter's boyfriend  
mentioning that his pastime  
is chainsaw juggling

a linguist loving  
*racecar* is the same going  
forward or backward

asking Aunt Rita  
why she chooses outfits  
that are so skintight

asking Uncle Vic  
why he unbuttons his shirts  
down to the navel

homeless teen sharing  
his four-day-old doughnut  
with a stray cat

quiz on glands . . .  
correcting the sixth grader  
who wrote *Mommy*

post-concert . . .  
two old flutists discussing  
arthritis treatments

the grandmother  
of *Saw*'s writer requesting  
a rom-com next

fifth grade teacher  
in art class, feels she's playing  
*Whac-A-Mole*

Phoenix weatherman  
calling the temperature  
of ninety-eight *warm*

Granddad arguing  
there's more agony in  
deceit than defeat

his teenaged daughter  
finding the word *abroad*  
sexist

*Arby's* bathroom stall . . .  
a stout senior belting out  
an aria

blonde history prof  
referring to Mao and Marx  
as Redheads

showing his grandsons  
where to find on the web  
the best old-time porn

her brother-in-law  
christening his new rowboat  
Titanic II

sleepless new Mom  
working on her tax returns  
between feedings

men's room pipe  
bursts at *Bed Bath & Beyond* . . .  
Halloween night

his three-year-old son  
laughing loudly, **then** asking  
*What's so funny?*

the young professor  
trying to inject whimsy  
in Organic Chem

job applicant  
asking whether they received  
his *ri-zoom*

retired Navy cooks,  
now chefs, labeling themselves  
seasoned veterans

*I adore Linda! . . .*  
her grandfather responding  
*Why on earth??*

*Jim is wonderful! . . .*  
his grandmother replying  
*Get to know him*

the poet torching  
his third book, dedicated  
to his second wife

Uncle Al searching  
for a kind proctologist  
with slender fingers

asked her age,  
their two year-old answering  
*Twenty minutes*

high school drama class . . .  
senior Christopher Gentile  
playing Shylock

English prof loving  
that *six-pack abs*' opposite  
is *beer gut*

## Grace

After the vaccination,  
Their three year-old –  
Without shedding a tear,  
But with abundant anger –  
Rips off the Band-Aid,  
Throws it at the doctor, and  
Utters in a condemning voice,  
*You hurt me, Mister*

responding  
to the candidate's hand wave  
with one finger

the young pianist  
noting as her favorites  
Bach, Liszt, Ludacris

noticing  
Mom has more tattoos than Dad,  
an Army sergeant

the shrink reminding  
his young patient that Moses  
was a basket case

a preschooler  
rejoicing that his yo-yo  
needs no batteries

first grader Li Qian  
coloring with Nathan Kahn  
and Habib Sharif

hit by a pitch,  
the little leaguer doing  
cartwheels to first

the banker  
buying vanity plates  
inscribed 4TUNE

the psychic  
buying vanity plates  
inscribed 4TELL

the mohel  
buying vanity plates  
inscribed 4SKIN

describing  
her husband-to-be as  
*kind enough*

describing  
his bride-to-be as  
*ultra-forgiving*

Aunt Merle explaining  
why she prefers St. Louis  
over Saint-Tropez

his brother wearing  
an all-denim 3-piece suit  
to the wedding

his sister sporting  
an oversized Saints jersey  
to the christening

at *Chez Paul*, his wife  
asking the waiter whether  
the water is free

at *Chez Paul*, her spouse  
asking the waiter whether  
tips can be in coins

begging her parents  
to change their last name  
from Cox to Fox

the young driver  
blaming the multi-car crash  
on an ill-timed sneeze

the judge sentencing  
the ninety-year-old killer  
to life in prison

fisherman's child  
refusing to eat tuna  
unless it's round

his grandmother  
assuming *LOL* means  
*Lots of love*

on the street . . . hit on  
by a creep, the pretty teen  
starts oinking loudly

Solomon King  
loving forms requesting  
*last name first*

Belle Tinker  
loathing forms requesting  
*last name first*

her child arguing  
*half and half* should be  
renamed *crilk*

sixth birthday . . .  
Sean Lee wishing for  
a lengthier name

ninth birthday . . .  
Carl Dunne wishing for  
a fancier name

twelfth birthday . . .  
Joan Potts wishing for  
a sexier name

the elder  
correcting the spelling on  
his wife's shopping list

a child pondering  
if angels remove their wings  
before bedtime

renowned professor  
avowing Joseph Stalin  
wasn't that bad

Red Sox fan  
enraged hearing Northerners  
called *Yankees*

their priest  
noting calmly why Gandhi  
was the antichrist

Trenton Mom urging  
her son, heading for Harvard,  
*Don't be too Jersey*

## On Vacation

Driving up  
a sharply curving,  
dangerously steep,  
frighteningly narrow  
Rocky Mountain road,  
the teen witnesses  
Mom praying for  
divine intervention,  
Dad holding the wheel  
with a death grip, and  
Grandma, her head  
outside the window,  
taking photographs

post-breakup . . .  
egging the cars of her ex,  
his Dad, his Granddad

two female psychics  
noting that most of *women*  
is *omen*

sleep-deprived mother  
cutting into small pieces  
her husband's waffle

Rice sophomore  
telling his niece he studies  
physics, not farming

the four year-old  
begging for a cookie  
too big to dunk

the immigrant  
struggling with *lip sync*, *fat lip*,  
*give lip* and *lip read*

their Doberman  
running away in terror  
from the hairless cat

on a shooting star  
her ten year-old wishing for  
height and muscles

on a shooting star  
his twelve year-old wishing for  
ESP and cash

a boy inquiring  
if his late sister will remain  
three in heaven

Valentine's Day . . .

a sixth grader asking why  
there's no heart cancer

telling their daughter,  
heading off for college,  
to take no risks

early winter . . .

her child requesting gauntlets  
instead of mittens

out-of-state student

assuming Colgate's mascot  
is tooth-related

her kindergartner

claiming blue *M&Ms*  
taste the sweetest

marathon runner,  
leading by two hundred yards,  
whistling a show tune

the sportscaster,  
intending to say *Blow out*,  
uttering *Blow job*

refusing  
to believe Uncle Sy's name  
is short for Seymour

the oncologist  
considering a shift to  
hair restoration

reading the poster,  
*You Can Do It All!*, their Mom  
shouting *That's a lie!*

mid-lecture, a prof  
scraping baby formula  
from her blouse

a Texas teen  
cheering the cow escaping  
from the slaughterhouse

high school senior  
displeasing her Greek parents,  
applying to Troy

existentialists  
starting the child care center  
*No Exit from Fun*

in South Korea  
black singers taking selfies  
on a Seoul train



## Author's Note

Dr. Robert H. Deluty is the Associate Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. He has been a psychology professor at UMBC since 1980, and was named Presidential Teaching Professor in 2002. He and his wife, Barbara (a clinical psychologist), live in Ellicott City, Maryland and have two children, Laura and David, and two granddaughters, Ava and Claire. Dr. Deluty's poems and essays have been published in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *The Pegasus Review*, *Modern Haiku*, *Voices: The Art and Science of Psychotherapy*, *Psychiatric Times*, *Jewish Currents*, the *Journal of Poetry Therapy*, *Welcome Home*, *Muse of Fire*, *Maryland Family Magazine*, *Gastronomica: The Journal of Food and Culture*, *The Faculty Voice*, and many other newspapers, journals, and anthologies. *Being Wakeful* is his forty-seventh book.

