

PETER L. SCACCO

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Twenty-five bodhisattvas  
(*Chion-in, Kyoto*)

Soft day in autumn,  
standing amid the silence  
of these weathered stones—

Do not tell me these shapes  
that gently undulate  
    with the ferned earth,  
shrouded in morning mist,  
are merely rocks, that we will be  
no more, nor come together  
    in a springtime  
to which I may yet travel.

Do not tell me these eyes  
that blink dimly at dawn  
    will fade to black,  
having worn themselves out  
from their descent to earth,  
that at some time, in some place,  
    we will not glow  
again softly in the dawn.



## ABOUT PETER L. SCACCO

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Peter L. Scacco is the author and illustrator of *A Quiet Place* (2012), *Along a Path* (2013), and *The Gray Days* (2014). His work has also appeared in *Black & White*, *Driftwood Press*, *Pirene's Fountain*, *Poetry Quarterly*, and *Schuylkill Valley Journal*. He is a graduate of Fordham University and lives in Austin, Texas. Online at [scacwoodcuts.com](http://scacwoodcuts.com).

