

KASHIANA SINGH

when honey is scarce

encouragements
stirred until the sugar
is entirely dissolved

ABOUT THE POEM & AUTHOR

Kashiana Singh created “when honey is scarce” from Anna Botsford Comstock’s *How to Keep Bees* (1905). About the poem and the process of composing it, Kashiana writes:

After choosing *How to Keep Bees*, I navigated the chapters and narrowed down a few I wanted to read in more detail. Then I read these chapters and as I was doing so, I isolated a few words and phrases that I thought would weave into a poem, keeping in mind a gathering process like the bees themselves. I developed a few different stanzas and poems. Then I started the reduction process to take away words and make the poem speak for itself. It was very rewarding to see what emerged. Finally, I landed at the haiku which I thought synthesized the essence of the process, the words, and created both a new form and a new meaning.

Kashiana Singh is the author of *Shelling Peanuts and Stringing Words* (The Impish Lass Publishing House 2018) and *Crushed Anthills* (Yavanika Press 2020). Her work has appeared in *Alien Buddha Press*, *Poets Reading the News*, *Remington Review*, *Rattle*, *Ink Sweat & Tears*, and elsewhere. She is also a managing editor for *Poets Reading the News*. Kashiana lives in Chicago, Illinois, and can be found online at kashiana.wordpress.com.

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