

# TAKE HEART

## A Conversation in Poetry

*Edited & Introduced by Wesley McNair,  
Maine Poet Laureate*

This week's poem by the late Robert Siegel of South Berwick takes us to the mysterious world of the supermarket.

### Shopping Together

*by Robert Siegel*

Cardboard stars crowd the shelves,  
and moons marked off a penny,  
as you glide, standing on the cart,

to a touch in any direction.  
We shine in a dusk of eggplants,  
sleepy with a perfume of apples,

wander forests of asparagus,  
drift in a green ocean  
of lettuce, avocados, celery,

down an avalanche of oranges  
to a wilderness of bananas--  
an El Dorado of lavish aromas.

Still, beyond the parsley are berries  
superfluous with juice  
that break in our mouths like old sorrows,

and melons like a school of whales  
shouldering a cool secret  
over the edge of the world.

All the way home, bags leaning  
lovesick against us,  
we feed each other plums and dark cherries.

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