A couple of people that are standing in the kitchen

Description automatically generated

Nancy’s Birthday Poems

Carl Lahser

Another Fine Birthday

Forty-five steps

Life has been a Song

Wishes for Another year

Year 48

Garden Comments

49: Old Enough

Another Fine Birthday

The painter Constable said,

“Nothing is ugly in this old world. “

Shouting girls from one side of the street

exude sexual defiance

in the way they challenge boys across the way

with their tinkling laughter.

Two mustached nuns dressed like penguins

walking side-by-side

in a flat-footed way

wave shyly as a passing Lowrider horn toots.

A homeless woman sitting on a bus bench

eating potato chips out of her purse

mumbles to anyone and

holds up a finger to a passing police car.

A snotty infant paddles rapidly along the sidewalk

in a T-shirt and screaming.

His sister runs after him waving a diaper

shouting for him to **come back this very minute**.

Time races and creeps and crawls

Minute by minute

Until another year has passed.

carl

++++



Forty-five steps

Forty-five steps

Up the spiral stairs

Each passing near its origin

But always charging upwards

To the widow’s walk

To view the future

Amongst the clouds

And changing fortune

Carl

++++

Life has been a Song

Happy 46

Born to the tunes of:

Simon and Garfunkel

The Beatles

The Jackson 5

Elvis

Glen Campbell

BB King

humming your way through life:

“Like a Bridge over troubled waters”

“Everything is Beautiful”

“Come and Get It”

Like Aretha Franklin sang, “Call Me”

Carl

++++

Wishes for Another year

47 Birthday wishes

A evening walk in your neighborhood

With your dogs

and a sweet boy

A morning walk along a beach

with a rising sun and scattered shells

hand in hand

A volume of verses

And a hot chocolate

When the cool winds blow

Happy Birthday

Carl

+++++

**Year 48**

**Rincon de Mirada**

What an old man sees

**1**

**Jogger**

Dark pony tail

Whipping left

then whipping right

in counterpoint to her hips

She looks like the Big Bopper song

“That’s what I like”.

**2**

**Donde**

It’s cool man

a Sarah Vaughn LP

with clicks and scratching

lit by candlelight.

Donde?

Where are you?

A sparkling spring day

Walking through azaleas and dogwood blooms

Under a wild blue sky

Across a wooden bridge over a roiling creek.

Donde?

Where are you?

Tropical sunsets paint the sky

Pina Coladas

Lobsters sizzling on the grill

Tropicbirds circling homeward.

Donde?

Where are you?

Mannnnnn bummer….

**++++**

**3**

**I WONDER**

black, black hair.

shoulder length.

cascading.

undulating.

reflecting sunny highlights.

would I still be attracted

if I saw her face?

4

**Glimpses**

I saw her in a Christmas crowd

but she vanished in a sea of bobbing heads

I called to her in the Plaka in Athens

She turned and spoke to me in Bulgarian

I bought her favorite drink from across a bar in St Louis

but she was gone before the waiter arrived

Countless glimpses of her over fifty years

in airports, on busy city streets, passing on busses.

She must be gone by now

Consumed by time

Absorbed in space

Existing only in a tiny corner of memory

Unchanged in a lifetime

+++++

Garden Comments

Nancy with the French braid

Carefully snipping wilted flowers and leaves

Watering everything

Plating specimen plants in the Conservatory

A lady with two young daughters

Said, “See what I have told you,

Working in the garden makes you pretty.”

“Oh Mom. Reaaaly!”, replied one of the girls.

Carl31Jul16

49: Old Enough

Old enough to kiss a boy

Old enough to take a drink

Old enough to save or spend

Old enough to choose your life

Old enough to see the world

Old enough to stop counting

¡feliz cumpleaños¡

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY