

## In my garden

Yorifumi Yaguchi

**R**efugees come to my garden  
where the grasses without insecticide  
grow unweeded: a legless katydid,  
an armless cricket, a wingless grasshopper,  
a snail with its broken shell ...

After a few nights  
they are able to start  
a kind of tuning up. Tonight  
when the harvest moon floats  
high at the center of the sky,

I leave my windows all open  
and am attracted through the night  
by the maimed orchestra  
while my house keeps floating  
on the waves of the surrounding grasses.

### About the poet

Yorifumi Yaguchi, a nationally recognized poet, is a Mennonite pastor and prominent peace activist in Sapporo, the largest city in Japan's far northern Hokkaido region. These poems are reprinted from *The Poetry of Yorifumi Yaguchi: A Japanese Voice in English*, edited by Wilbur J. Birky. Copyright by Good Books (www.GoodBooks.com). Used by permission. All rights reserved.