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# Pro Rege

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## Winter Spider

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# Winter Spider

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*Bob De Smith – November 2019*

How are you alive?  
Is there a place  
That did not freeze,  
Some warm cranny I didn't know?  
Or did you freeze solid—  
Whatever gel is in your plump body  
Freezing up  
Like ice cream?  
What was that like?  
Maybe that's why you  
Are slow, tentative, lost  
Legs stiff as an old man's,  
As I brush you back  
Into the cold, rich  
Leaf pile.

# Remembering John

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*Ed Dengler – July 2020*

When movement seemed impossible,  
He uplifted me.  
When hope was but a whisper,  
He encouraged me.  
When I despaired of a silent end,  
He granted an explanatory ear.  
In hours under death's shadow,  
I was blessed by a countering light,  
An ever-living Christian,  
John H. Kok.