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The PCI News



2023 Building Bridges Award

The Pacific Century Institute’s Annual Awards dinner took place on Thursday, February 16, 2023 at the Beverly Hills Hotel in Beverly Hills, CA. With more than 200 distinguished guests, supporters, and members of PCI, PCI honored Ambassador Donald P. Gregg, former US Ambassador and Chairman Emeritus of the Pacific Century Institute and Ewha Womans University, represented by its President Eun Mee Kim. PCI President Raymond Burghardt served as the master of ceremonies, and the welcoming remarks were delivered by PCI Chair Kathleen Stephens, and closing remarks by PCI Vice President Professor Tom Plate.

The 2023 Institutional Building Bridges award was awarded to Ewha Womans University. Ewha Womans University was established in 1886 as the first women’s educational institution in the Republic of Korea by Mary Scranton who was dispatched by the Women’s Foreign Missionary Society of the United Methodist Church of the United States. Ewha was established to educate girls and women who did not have the opportunities for any education in the late Joseon dynasty. In 1887, "Po Goo Nyo Goan" was established in the compounds of Ewha as the first women's hospital to help treat women patients by women doctors and nurses. Ewha continues to fulfill its educational mission— based on the Christian spirit of love, dedication, and sharing— to educate and train women around the world in all fields of academic study.

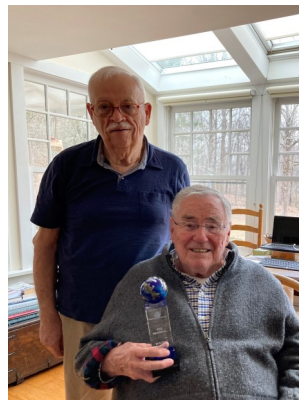


(President Eun Mee Kim, Beverly Hills, CA)

President Eun Mee Kim of Ewha Womans University accepted the award on behalf of the institution, its faculty, and its students. President Kim remarked that "It is an honor to receive such a meaningful award representing Ewha and its students and faculty." She added "Ewha Womans University, with 137 years of history, has produced many of the first women leaders in almost all fields in Korea, and now is continuing its mission by educating and training women leaders from around the world."

The 2023 Individual Building Bridges award honoree was Amb. Donald P. Gregg, former US Ambassador to Republic of Korea and Chairman Emeritus of the Pacific Century Institute, for his

efforts and exemplifying PCI's vision of building bridges of understanding. After enlisting in the military in 1945, Ambassador Gregg attended Williams College in Massachusetts, where he was recruited to join the CIA. Over the next 31 years of service, he was assigned to Japan, Burma, Vietnam, and Korea. By 1979, Mr. Gregg was also holding the position of Asia Policy and Intelligence Matters Specialist on the United States National Security Council, and by 1981 he was Director of the NSC's Intelligence Directorate. In September 1989, Ambassador Gregg was appointed Ambassador to The Republic of Korea. Prior to his departure from the country in 1993, he received the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service, an honorary doctoral degree from Sogang University, and a decoration from the prime minister of South Korea.



(Fred Carriere (L) with Amb. Gregg (R), Armonk, NY)

In his video remarks, Ambassador Gregg talked about the importance of dialogue and building bridges – an effective way to move from a posture of mutual ignorance to a position of mutual understanding. He also mentioned what inspired him to start the Kids to Korea program 30 years ago that subsequently evolved into what today is Project Bridge. Mr. Frederick Carriere received the award on behalf of Ambassador Gregg.



(Amb. Kathleen Stephens (L) Fred Carriere (L Center), Pres. Eun Mee Kim (R Center); and Amb. Ray Burghardt (R), Beverly Hills, CA)

For more info, please contact us at pci@pacificcenturyInst.org.



Board Member's Opinion Editorial

This opinion piece featuring PCI co-founder, Spencer H. Kim was published in the Korea Daily on March 23, 2023.

[Column] Dialogue: The Only Path to Understanding

By Spencer H. Kim



Thirty-six years ago I helped co-found the Pacific Century Institute (PCI). Our goal was to build "bridges of understanding" between the peoples living on the vast Pacific Rim because we saw the coming century as the "Pacific Century."

That this is now the Pacific Century is certainly true. But have the peoples on the Pacific Rim increased their understanding of each other? Or are they angry, fearful, mistrusting, and headed for dangerous confrontations? And have the efforts of PCI, and the kinds of initiatives it supported, borne any fruit, or was it all for naught?

I asked myself that question as the Pacific Century Institute held its annual gala dinner in the ultra-luxurious Beverly Hills Hotel in Los Angeles last month to honor the winners of its "Building Bridges Award." Ewha University was honored for its work in becoming an acknowledged international leader in academia and research. We also honored Donald Gregg, former US Ambassador to Korea, former President of the Korea Society, and former Chairman of PCI, for a lifetime of work.

Sitting among the glitz – was it all just a show? For all that the Pacific Rim has achieved in prosperity and sophistication so far in the Pacific Century, will it now reverse all that progress in snarling ignorance, and sometimes, arrogance?

But I listened closely to what Donald Gregg had to say that

night, and I was reminded of the key points he has made all his life. In ignorance, potential adversaries will demonize each other. Demonization only increases the chance of confrontation. The only path to reverse demonization is dialogue. Only by talking can you go from ignorance to understanding. And it's not enough to just understand what your prospective adversary wants, you also have to understand what he needs – no matter if you think he "deserves" it or not. And he has to understand what you need. Only when each side is going to get what they need, can they cooperate.

There is a matrix of many moving parts on the Pacific Rim right now – China's assertiveness, North Korea's nuclear weapons, South Korea's fear of North Korea's nuclear weapons, Japan's remilitarization, disputes in the South China Sea, the future of Taiwan, a US-UK-Australia weapons/intelligence alliance, historical grievances, the rise of the ASEAN countries' relevance, the impacts of climate change, etc.

Now is the time for all parties to maximize their dialogue, and resist the easy siren song of demonizing those who don't agree with them. To talk is not to be "soft"; to talk is not to agree; but dialogue is the only way to separate need from want, and solution from confrontation.

A serendipitous by-product of the PCI dinner was the gathering of PCI board members for the dinner. Several, expert in the nuclear situation on the Korean peninsula, and its global context, accepted the invitation of the Joong Ang Ilbo to be interviewed on the subject. The interviews (published in Korean and English) with Siegfried Hecker, Robert Carlin, Robert Gallucci, and Glen Ford make for good reading. All came to two conclusions: first, South Korea needs dialogue with the North, and the North with the South; second, not only does South Korea not need its own nuclear weapon, the process of obtaining them would increase, not decrease, the danger of nuclear conflagration and do significant harm to the South's economy as well as its global reputation and influence.

And so, I recommitted to PCI's purpose – building bridges of understanding. Because if we wallow in mutual ignorance and mutual demonization we are going to see the glorious Pacific Century shatter. Ended not by some outside force, but because the very peoples of the Pacific Rim could not sustain a dialogue among themselves that allowed them to mutually find solutions that met their core needs.

The Pacific Century Institute's website is: <https://pacificcenturyinst.org/>



Board Member's Opinion Editorial

This opinion piece featuring PCI board member, Glyn Ford was published in the Korea Daily on March 3, 2023.

[Exclusive] Make Pyongyang's Day!



By Glyn Ford / Former Member of the European Parliament (MEP)

For Pyongyang the South going nuclear would be a cause for celebration not consternation. The recent forewarning by President Yoon that Seoul might opt for unilateral nuclear armament was painted as a threat to Pyongyang that would force it to curb its enthusiasm for the continued development of bigger missiles and smaller nukes. This deterrent effect was to resonate with its deliberate conjuncture with Prime Minister Kishida's announced smashing of Tokyo's 1% glass ceiling on military spending with his plan to double the defense budget over the next five to ten years, thus supposedly delivering a pincer movement locking the North in the jaws of a Tokyo-Seoul vice.

US reaction was bipolar. Ignoring Article 9 of Japan's Peace Constitution – carelessly fettered on Tokyo by the US Occupation in 1947 – was welcome in Washington particularly with the Japanese Supreme Court's self-denying ordinance of non-interference. In contrast Seoul was put down and in its place. Yoon's was a step that put to the question Washington's commitment to the US – ROK alliance and extended deterrence.

There was no answer. Washington's enthusiasm for the redeployment of tactical nuclear weapons in South Korea is no existent, while completely off the table is any notion of dual key allowing Seoul a say in its own fate and future. The Pentagon's last best offer would be some sleight of hand where Washington deploys nuclear capable platforms to the South and a Clintonian 'don't ask, don't tell' closet policy on armament available. It's an unattractive answer to Seoul's search for sovereignty.

The North's ICBM program now serves a second purpose as demonstrated by the spectacle of Pyongyang's military parade earlier this month. Qualitatively there remain doubts about their ICBM's missile re-entry capacity, the number of warheads they are capable of carrying and the lack of any-

thing but rudimentary targeting capacity, quantitatively the dozen Hwasong 17s that trundled through Kim Il Sung Square were enough to overwhelm US defenses. This punches a massive hole in US missile defense and security strategy with a vulnerability not there before.

The North is well aware this is a gamechanger. In any future crisis – that threatens to go nuclear – the US is now in the frontline. The battle will no longer be limited to foreign soil. It threatens to furl the umbrella of extended deterrence. When De Gaulle asked whether Washington would trade New York for Paris many believed they might. The question in North East Asia has been, until now, Tokyo for Seoul. The answer to that question was always yes. Now when Los Angeles, New York and other US cities are in play the US public would vote no with its politicians in train.

At best the US will tighten the leash on the South's military adventurism with all the talk of disproportional retaliation for Northern provocations. At worst, this prospect of asymmetrical deterrence will drive Yoon's unilateralism. He's being pushed by public, popularity and position. His grim popularity ratings would only be enhanced by a policy of unilateral nuclear armament. He would free the South from the iron discipline of seventy years of subordination. Bad enough with shared objectives, but less tolerable in a house divided. It would pander to Korea's growing self-confident nationalism.

The North's gain is to severely weaken or even break the US alliance with Seoul, while the second shoe drops when Japan in the face of such unilateral action follows. All handing Pyongyang its 'Get out of Jail Free' card. Denuclearization is dead, the North is a 'de facto' nuclear state and the future is arms control with CVID yesterday's acronym, not today's policy, while the shackles of necessity that bound Tokyo and Seoul to Washington fall away. Pyongyang sees little to fear from the prospect of any new ROK-Japan alternative.

PCI Board Members, Founders and Fellows often contribute to the media. The opinions expressed are solely those of the individuals involved and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Pacific Century Institute.

SAVE THE DATE!

2023 William J. Perry Lecture

Special Lecture by Dr. Siegfried Hecker

Date: Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Venue: Ewha Womans University



PCI Sponsored Programs

Korea Peace Academy

The Korea Peace Academy 2023 is designed to provide civic activists, promising scholars, and talented people with advanced lecture series and in-depth learning programs in order to nurture leaders who can contribute to better policies and activities in the government and civil societies in the Korean peninsula. The KPA recruited a total of 15 students in such fields.

This program aims to foster "peacemakers" who will open a new era of peace and prosperity through improving inter-Korean relations as well as developing a social atmosphere of peace in Northeast Asia.

While reflecting on the 70th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice Agreement, the KPA 2023 will foster fundamental, practical, and inclusive discourses and activities for peace in collaboration with local governments and civil societies. There will be four sessions and 16 lectures during the year under the theme, "the Permanent Peace Settlement on the Korean Peninsula" :

Session 1: 70th Anniversary of Armistice Agreement and Peace on the Korean Peninsula

Session 2: Peace and Economy

Session 3: The Growth of North Korean Military Power & Crisis of Peace

Session 4: The Way to Peace: Negotiation

The program will run from April 6 to December 7, 2023.



(10th Korea Peace Academy's first lecture, Seoul, Korea, April 6, 2023)

Concordia Language Village

Since 2018, PCI and the Korean Language Village partnership has granted Project Bridge participants opportunities to be awarded full scholarships to its summer language camp at Concordia Language Villages located in Bemidji, MN.

The Korean Language Village enrolls a highly diverse group of students, socioeconomically and racially, from across the United States. It caters to all language proficiency levels, from novice to advanced, and supports each learner wherever they may be in the process of language acquisition. The program has also provided a steady pipeline for colleges around the country, since the Villagers often choose their schools based on whether they have a Korean language or Korean studies program.

Concordia Language Villages prepares young people to understand and appreciate cultural diversity; communicate with confidence and cultural sensitivity in more than one language; respond creatively and critically to issues that transcend national boundaries; express empathy for neighbors in the global village; and promote a worldview of peace, justice and sustainability for all. These goals are achieved through immersive, outdoor language learning; cultural programming that brings villagers into contact with the history and culture of their language; evening programs that highlight moments of historical and cultural significance; and community building that takes place in the target language, at the dining tables, in the cabins, and in small and large groups.



(2023 Concordia Language Villages scholarship recipients Iverlyn Alicon (L) and Perla Solano (R), Jeollabuk-do, Korea)

This year's scholarship recipients, Iverlyn Alicon and Perla Solano are juniors at Downtown Magnets High School in Los Angeles, CA. They look forward to their four-week credit program at Sup sogüi Hosu in Bemidji from June 19 to July 15.



PCI Fellows

Senior Fellow



(Hon. Young-sun Park)

Young-sun Park is a Senior Research Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School Ash Center.

Ms. Park was Minister of SMEs & Startups in the Republic of Korea from April 2019 to January 2021 and the first woman to hold the post. The Startups part of the portfolio was mainly concentrated in the high tech sector.

In April 2021, at the urging of her party due to her high approval ratings for her handling of the ministerial post, she ran for mayor of Seoul, but was defeated.

In 2020, she was the first Korean Minister to serve as chair of the Advanced Manufacturing and Production Committee at the World Economic Forum in Davos. Prior to her cabinet position, she served as a Member of the National Assembly in Korea for 16 years. She was the first woman floor leader and the first woman chairperson of the Legislation & Judiciary Committee. At the National Assembly, she gained a reputation for her efforts to reform the Chaebol system and the prosecutorial system in Korea.

Before she became a career politician, she was chief of the economy division, an anchor for national news, and a journalist for 22 years at the major TV station, MBC. In 1989, even before diplomatic relations were established between Korea and the Soviet Union, she anchored MBC TV news from Moscow and interviewed then opposition leader, Boris Yeltsin, who later became the President of Russia. As an anchor, she also had her own interview program and interviewed President Nelson Mandela in Cape Town and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Jerusalem, among many others. In 1995, she became the first woman special correspondent in Los Angeles for MBC TV for 3 years. In 2002, she anchored the first live MBC evening TV news from Pyongyang, North Korea.

Ms. Park is a recipient of many awards, including "The Baek Bong Shin Sa Award" selected by political news reporters in 2008, 2010 and 2011, "The Best National Assembly Member Award for the National Audit," "A Most Distinguished Politi-

cian in the 21st Century Award" in 2010. She has authored 5 books: "Park, Young-Sun and the Great Transformation (2021)" "Walking in Seoul (2018)" "Who is the Leader?(2015)" "Make Your Own History (2012)" and "Interviews By Park, Young-sun – the Fragrance of People (2002)" One of the more sought after politicians in Korea for an interview by news media, she has approximately 347,000 followers on her SNS.

Junior Fellow



(Paul Kyumin Lee)

Paul Kyumin Lee is currently pursuing an M.Phil in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation at Trinity College Dublin's Irish School of Ecumenics in Belfast, Northern Ireland through the support of the US-UK Fulbright Commission's All Disciplines Postgraduate Award. Paul previously worked as a Senior Program Specialist for Youth Programs at the U.S. Institute of Peace, and previously worked in the China and

North Korea program at USIP. Before joining USIP, Paul worked in the Asia Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace as a James C. Gaither Junior Fellow. For the past seven years, Paul has been part of the leadership of Divided Families USA, an NGO that advocates for a formal mechanism for Korean Americans to reunite with their relatives in North Korea, and is the co-founder and co-host of the Divided Families Podcast, a platform for connecting stories of family separation. Paul has been a dialogue facilitator for the Words of Engagement Intergroup Dialogue Program at the University of Maryland, the Strait Talk Symposium, a civil society dialogue workshop at Brown University and the University of California, Berkeley for youth from mainland China and Taiwan, and at Seeds of Peace, a summer camp in Maine for teenagers from conflict areas. He graduated from Yale University with a bachelor's in political science and speaks Korean, Mandarin, Japanese, and Spanish.

SAVE THE DATE!

Project Bridge Graduation @ PCI HQ

Saturday, June 17, 2023 @10:45 AM



Project Bridge

This year’s Youth Ambassador, Sasha Sengelmann shares her reflection on her recent Study Tour to South Korea.

Since returning from the Project Bridge study tour to South Korea, my life has been a tumultuous whirlwind of missing assignments, college preparation, upcoming exams, and school activities. Rushing from one thing to the next, my memories from these past couple of weeks have blurred together, swept into my dustpan of a brain by the relentless hands of time. The only moments where I am granted respite from this era of perpetual haste are when I reminisce upon the Project Bridge study tour – when people ask me, “How was Korea?” In an instant, it all comes flooding back to me, and as my mouth struggles to articulate the thoughts swarming unintelligibly in my head, here’s what I wish to say:

“Aside from my immediate frustration at my lack of international cellular data, the first thing I noticed after arriving in Incheon Airport was the absence of trash cans. Though I remembered Angie *seonsaengnim* briefly warning us about South Korea’s dearth of public garbage bins, I had no idea it would be this drastic. To make matters worse, the only trash cans available were separated into several categories of waste. This ended up being something that continually surprised me in every new area of South Korea that we visited, from *Jeollabuk-do* to *Seoul*. As an American accustomed to seeing trash cans conveniently placed at every street corner, I initially found it slightly difficult to adjust, but as I held onto my candy wrappers and empty water bottles, I soon grew to appreciate this regulation. No matter where we went in South Korea, the streets were remarkably cleaner than those I had observed in the United States, particularly in Los Angeles. This amazed me, as I had assumed that a lack of easily accessible areas to properly dispose of trash would simply lead to anarchical littering – after all, in the U.S., there are trash cans everywhere, yet people still throw their garbage wherever they please, cluttering the scenery with waste. In contrast to what I had observed to be the ‘American way,’ Korean people acted completely differently in regards to social norms, which taught me my first lesson learned on this trip: Korean people actually follow the rules.

“My observations were confirmed by Professor Sohn when we visited *Ewha* University, who told me that in addition to their habitual cleanliness, Korean citizens do not cross the street when the walk sign flashes red, even if there are no cars in sight. A couple of other Youth Ambassadors concurred, as they had observed this phenomenon in the past, and I began to gain a better understanding and appreciation of South Korea’s social culture.

“‘It’s ironic,’ Professor Sohn remarked, ‘that Korean society was modeled after American society, but if you were to tell a Korean about how Americans litter inconsequentially or run red lights as pedestrians, they’d be shocked.’



(2022-2023 Youth Ambassador with Daegu Metropolitan City Youth Organization, *Gyeongju-si*, Korea)

“This lesson was particularly notable to me because it was something that was not discussed in the workshops which I came to realize on my own, and it was probably the most significant trend I observed throughout the duration of the trip, as it soon allowed everything else to make sense as well. As I sat on the bus, I often found myself admiring how the paper-white cherry blossoms stood out as the brightest objects in each landscape, without the distracting sight of reflective plastic bags stealing their spotlight. This indisputable form of beauty resulting from the combined efforts of Korean citizens to keep their country clean was a clear explanation of why initiatives such as *saemaul undong* – which we learned about during one of the past Project Bridge workshops – were successful, and why Korean society still seems to strongly value self-help, diligence, and cooperation.

“Besides this, I began to notice many other trends that were consistent with what we had gone over in workshops prior to the trip as well, starting with basics that were covered in the very beginning. One of the first things we learned about was the creation of *Hangul*, which was brought forth to replace Chinese characters, which had previously been used as the Korean written language. In Korea, while most of the street signs, plaques, etc. I saw were inscribed with *Hangul*, I often saw (traditional) Chinese characters, typically on talismans, heavenly gates, and written in subscripts next to the *Hangul* characters of people’s names. Though I knew that Chinese characters were originally the foundation of the Korean written language, I was still slightly surprised that they were



Project Bridge

so prevalent in today’s South Korea, despite *Hangul* being created nearly 600 years ago. Because so many things – mainly in and surrounding temples – were labeled in traditional Chinese rather than *Hangul*, there were many instances where I was able to read and understand the signs, which I appreciated because of the lack of translational labels written in English.



(2022-2023 Youth Ambassador, Sasha Sengelmann, Seoul, Korea)

“Something else that quickly caught my attention, typically in areas within proximity of a temple, were the small, vertical stacks of stones that balanced precariously in every visible corner of land. Their sizes ranged from about 3 inches tall to roughly 5 feet tall, but each was impressive nonetheless, as they were all evidently built with great caution, care, and patience. Because of this, I had initially assumed that these stone stacks were built by monks for them to cultivate patience. However, after asking Jenny *seonsaengnim*, I learned that these figures were stone pagodas built by regular people, as offerings to the mountain spirit. Throughout the trip, these small stone pagodas were consistently prevalent because of many temples we came across, in rural and urban areas alike. The sheer amount of temples present within so many different landscapes in South Korea was another thing I found interesting, especially because the temples were all constructed in very similar ways, causing them to all look largely the same, despite how far apart they were geographically, or how far apart they may have been in age.

“Another detail I noticed about South Korea which aligned with what we had learned in the workshops was the fact that its population is largely homogenous. This made visits to the high schools especially interesting, as many of the Korean students had not seen non-Korean people in real life before, thus their reactions to meeting us (people who mostly were not of their race or ethnicity) were a mixture of fascination, bewilderment,

and curiosity. Having grown up in relatively diverse communities for all my life, their unchecked excitement initially seemed wildly unreasonable to me – particularly when they laid eyes on the White students – until I remembered what we had learned in the workshops prior to the trip, and in this moment, I understood the importance of and the need for having workshops to prepare us for the study tour. However, this did not ease the sadness I felt when I noticed that the overwhelmingly positive attention they gave to the White students was not received by students of other ethnic groups, despite them also not being Korean (or even East Asian, in many cases). Many of the Korean students associated and equated Eurocentric features with beauty and fawned over the White Project Bridge students, which was unfortunately evident to students who did not receive the same kind of attention. Therefore, while the White students basked comfortably in the welcoming embrace of the fascinated Korean students, other Project Bridge students were stung by the conspicuous repercussions of White supremacy/idolization, as well as the lack of POC representation in media (which I think is what caused the Korean students to be so interested in White people, as they are the forefront of Western media). At one point, I even heard a non-White classmate say, ‘I wish I were also White, so I could be pretty.’ After living in a bubble for my entire life where race was never directly correlated with beauty, witnessing this heartbreaking resignation made me realize the true significance of having different races and ethnicities represented within media, specifically as leading roles, not just side or “token” characters. I feel like if the Korean students were exposed to media which idolized Mexican people, for instance, in the same way that western media idolizes White people, they would have been much more eager to receive the rest of the people in our group, rather than just a certain few. However, ultimately, the Korean students were very welcoming and happy to receive the Project Students, no matter their race/ethnicity, and I was glad that we were all able to get along and form connections, despite linguistic and cultural barriers.”

Overall, every little thing throughout this trip proved to be a learning experience, no matter how seemingly insignificant – I found myself intrigued by the fact that a specific, uniform style of metal chopsticks, spoons, and cups were present at every restaurant; I learned that monks have phones and that temples have WiFi; I was told that Korean middle/high school students were not allowed to perm or dye their hair; I watched in awe as Korean elementary schoolers drenched their burgers in hot sauce (that I definitely would have died eating when I was their age). Therefore, when approached with inquiries regarding how my trip to Korea went, I struggle immensely with deciding what to say. There is no way for me to discuss only one part of the trip without contemplating and mentioning every other aforementioned detail; though of course, no one has the time or patience to listen to me explain all of this, so typically I just sum it all up into one four-word reply: “I learned a lot.”



Celebration of Life

A vVery warm and beautiful celebration of the life of Ken Tugle, PCI President *Emeritus*, took place on Saturday, May 13, 2023 in Winona, Minnesota. Many friends and relatives from Louisville, KY were also in attendance.



Hopi Prayer

Do not stand at my grave and weep;
 I am not there. I do not sleep.
 I am a thousand winds that blow.
 I am the diamond glints on snow.
 I am the sunlight on the ripened grain,
 I am the gentle Spring's rain.
 When you awaken in the morning hush,
 I am the swift uplifting wash
 Of quiet birds in circled flight.
 I am the soft stars that shine at night.
 Do not stand at my grave and cry;
 I am not there. I did not die.



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