

## No Knowing

By Lawrence Janssen

For the mystic there is  
Only the cloud of the unknowing  
Void, numinous and radiant  
No words, perceptions or thoughts  
Only this very moment complete and undivided  
A mystery beyond dissection  
Sacred as the mountain and tall cedar  
No carefully calculated strategies  
For a wondrous reward earned, deserved or achieved  
Hear the call of the wild!  
A voice crying in the desert  
To open our senses  
Hot and cold  
To the pulse of seasons and change  
An intuitive observation of nature  
Light and darkness  
Birth and death  
Change and continuity  
Within a cycle  
And rhythm beyond our imagination

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**Lawrence Janssen**, a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, is a registered architect and artist. His painting of Thomas Merton, featured on the cover of the Summer 2011 *Merton Seasonal*, is in the collection of the Bellarmine University Merton Center. He studied in the Dominican Order for seven years. Two years ago he designed a church for the Maronite Community. He is currently working on a volume of poetry influenced by Zen Buddhism.



**Lawrence Janssen**