

# New Poetry by Jim Kraus: "Amphibious"



ABOUT TO DISAPPEAR / *photo by Amalie Flynn*

## **AMPHIBIOUS**

In Hokusai's "Kanagawa Wave," the boatmen  
look like a school of masquerading fish  
about to disappear into the vast trough between waves,  
the scene a masque for the knowing seascape.

Underwater, Ahab,

pinned to the great white  
creature, like a wave that has  
disappeared into silence.

In memory's slow dancing,  
flesh now dissolved,  
seafloor muck covers bones  
and shark-tooth nodules.

Out of the bubbling methane,  
Ahab is reborn with tripod limbs  
and tiny feet, the wooden leg  
now a trail of seafloor slime,  
amphibious.