



SHORT STORIES



*A Monograph Series by
George Klass*



Winter

George Klass





Winter always seemed to be the worst time of the year for me, except for Christmas of course, with turkey, apple pie and lots of presents. Wet, cold, slippery and with nothing to do except at the first snow fall, when we all rush out like lemmings, and make snowmen, or snow women, and throw snow balls at each other.

Now in my dotage, I really enjoy winter. Especially for photography. The snow makes everything much simpler and takes away the interference of all those colours. The end result being that one can really see the shapes of everything. There is colour in winter, but so very subtle most of the time that one really has to study it to see the minute differences. A fresh blanket of snow is like a blank sheet of soft silky fine art paper. Ready at any time to be decorated with whatever takes ones fancy. Everything that happens is printed upon it. If you take the time over a cup of coffee there is much of interest to discover. Various creatures have passed on their journey from somewhere to somewhere else. The horses have wondered seemingly aimlessly around the pasture. Someone has done crazy



things with a snowmobile or other conveyance, and much much more. Every few years we have an exceptional winter for photography. Soft slow snowfalls without wind, which allows the snow to build up on everything. Ice storms, which whilst often causing hardship also create the most beautiful winter flowers. Hoar frost, which creates fascinating crystals over everything. Over the past twenty years there have only been two ice storms of note here. It is at that time possible, early in the morning, to listen to the trees tinkling like a million bells as the ice covered branches gently sway and touch in the breeze.

As our summers grow warmer and last longer one wonders if indeed winter may not come, but suddenly the warm sultry dog days end and once again Jack Frost lets his long thin fingers caress the land and we retreat to our burrows, bake apple pies and hibernate till spring. In case you do these things, these images will let you see what you may be missing - Enjoy.



The Winter Daily News









These images were captured over several years in the environs around Malagash, where I live. Each year there seems to be more to see and photograph, probably because I take more time to look without feeling guilty of wasting time. The winters seem also to be becoming more interesting, I think this is due to the milder weather and greater precipitation we have been experiencing. Undoubtedly the climate is changing. Whilst I would like to see it much warmer overall, like England, perhaps. I would also not like to lose our beautiful winters for ever. I think the answer would be, as many of our snowbirds already do, to leave for a part of it and return when the worst is over. Being however a glutton for punishment I will stick around and stay warm with the wood stove whilst roasting chestnuts and drinking spiced wine. You are welcome to join me.





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This monograph is also available as a hand made 10 page artist Chap Book.

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Not made in China, hand made in Malagash, Nova Scotia!



to have fun, laugh a lot, and capture images that enrich the lives of others