

remember the bride was the most beautiful girl I had ever seen.”

“I do remember!” Byron cried. “The bride with her stunning black hair and big black eyes was indeed the most beautiful I had ever seen! I remember thinking then the groom was a really lucky guy.” He paused, his face suddenly somber. “I remember that bride for another reason.”

“Why?”

“I heard she died in childbirth less than a year after they married.”

As if caught in an earthquake, Thanos felt the earth heave and shatter beneath his feet.

Harry Mark Petrakis is a Greek American novelist, short story writer, essayist, teacher, and lecturer. He is the author of twenty-three books including novels, short story collections, essays, and both autobiographies and commissioned biographies. He is perhaps best known for his novel *A Dream of Kings*, which was made into a motion picture of the same name starring Anthony Quinn. He is a recipient of the O. Henry Award as well as the Chicago Public Library’s Carl Sandburg Literary Award. He has twice been a finalist for the National Book Award in Fiction. A high school drop out, in addition to the honorary doctor of literature he holds from the American College of Greece, he holds honorary degrees from the University of Illinois, Roosevelt University, Hellenic College, Governors State University, and Indiana University Northwest.

GARY RUDELL

Walking on Water, 2018
Oil on panel, 50 x 50 in



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