



The Bon Mot

Issue No 1



My husband and I celebrated a big anniversary recently. We stayed close to home and marked the occasion by attending our first **Outstanding In the Field** event one evening, and then spent a night in Big Sur.

We had a little whiplash going from a fantastically social dinner to an oddly silent one. The first dinner was outside at one long table animated by lots of kindred adventurous foodies.

The next night we dined outside at a table for two, far from other tables of two, where everyone silently admired the ocean view, the sunset, and the artfully plated meals.

The silence was interrupted only when an adorable whippet named Jack dining near us sent his meal back because the boiled chicken might or might not have had a grill mark on it.

Three Things

1

I am fascinated with the artificial intelligence art generator called **Dream by Wombo AI**. I've been playing around with the free version and creating some really interesting and wondrous results.

It's addicting.

I created an image (see below) with the phrase "Big Sur Ocean View Swimming Pool Sunset" and it evokes my time in Big Sur better than my photographs.

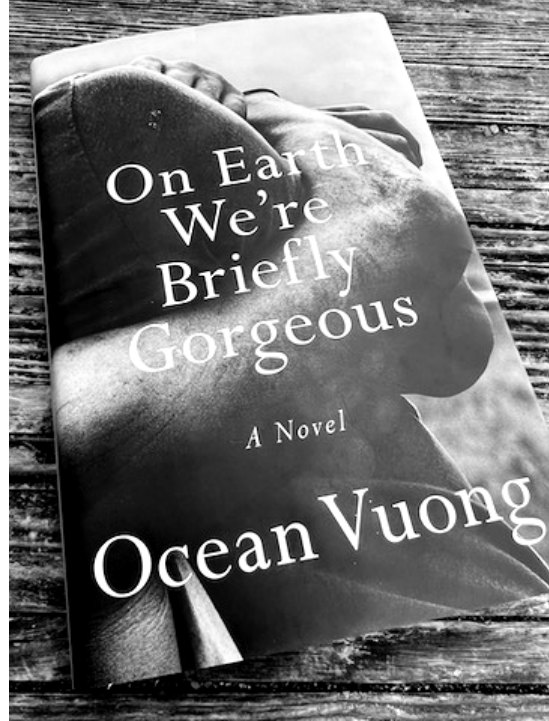
2

I am rereading *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* by Ocean Vong. It's a rare occurrence for me to read a book more than once, but I'm enjoying this achingly beautiful, heartbreaking and lyric book even more the second time. I love audiobooks, and the author reads this one in a breathy, slightly accented voice which is lovely.

But this book is a work that demands to be read as words on a page, so the beauty of the sentences can be savored. The audiobook is too fast, sentences piling up on each other when they often need to stand on their own, one at a time.

3

Have you ever heard the term *porch pounder*? It was used recently to describe a wine I was tasting, an easy-to-drink light red valdiguié served slightly chilled. I'm hooked. It's my drink of the summer. Sorry aperol spritz, you are pretty and refreshing but too effervescent for these serious times.



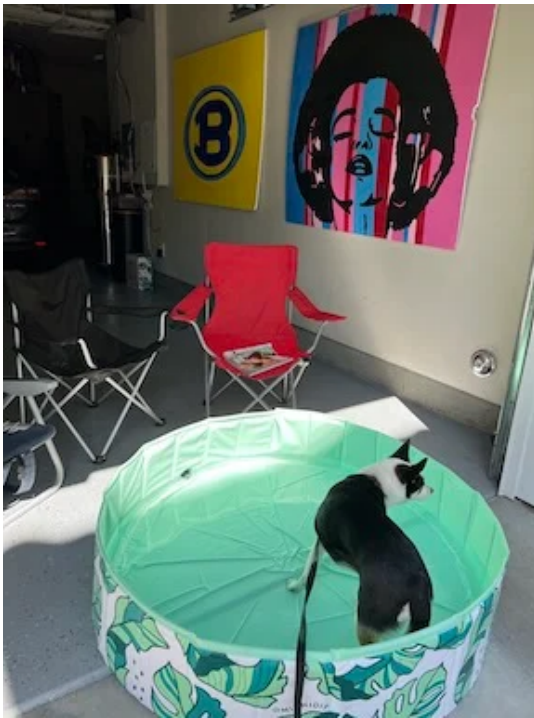
What's Ahead

I'm working on the second volume of my book! It's in the editing stage. Stay tuned for more on the release. Maybe I'll be able to do some kind of event.

I am also working on helping a 91-year-old neighbor edit and publish his autobiography. It covers his life from the age of 8 to 20 years old, from just before the start of WWII to his emigration from Germany to the United States.

It's a gem.

Cute Dog Photos



My dog Juneau enjoying her pool, and Jack the Whippet stretching after his meal.

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