

narrator = poet

Jack

"MARRIED" by Jack Gilbert

Grief over loss
Shift

I came back from the funeral and crawled around the apartment, crying hard, searching for my wife's hair.

desperate
Solemn

Time
"Present"
NOW

Search shift

For two months got them from the drain, from the vacuum cleaner, under the refrigerator, and off the clothes in the closet.

numb/detached
2 months

Give up hope
Shift

But after other Japanese women came, there was no way to be sure which were hers, and I stopped.

disappointment

A year later, repotting Michiko's avocado, I find a long black hair tangled in the dirt.

1 year later

* Tone: Solemn / serious

Mood: relieved / sad
(me)

Gilbert's style

b. 1925 - Pittsburgh, PA/USA

✓ deals plainly with topic

Cold War

• Reagan / H. W. Bush (USA)

✓ very focused

* major inspirations for writing - women

✓ stark approach to stark subject matter

Michiko - his wife
Nogami
died at 36 (cancer)
21 yrs. younger

The Great Fires

poems 1982-1992
(For Michiko Nogami)

Poem - elegy: poem of serious reflection
typically a lament for the dead.

"Michiko Dead" (Grief)