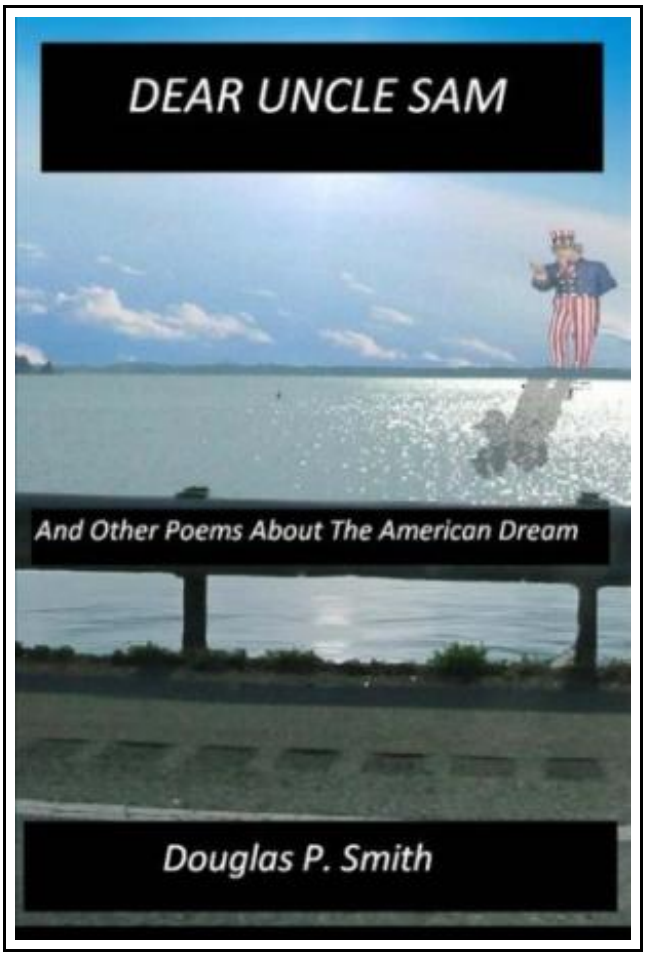
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(Leola Smith)

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Createspace, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.DEAR UNCLE SAM(AND OTHER POEMS ABOUT THE AMERICAN DREAM) is the fourth book of poetry by quintessentially American poet Douglas P. Smith. Mr. Smith born and raised on a farm just outside Syracuse, New York, writes of the simple joys and pleasures of rural and small town American life but cannot willfully ignore the struggles and underside of what used to be called the American Dream , especially in the title poem: Uncle Sam, Uncle Sam I can t afford green eggs and ham. Why won t you help me? I don t understand. Uncle Sam Why did you send my job To another land? How can the children learn When you close their school? Uncle Sam, Uncle Sam Oh say can you see what The country s going to be? Still, like the great 60 s icon Phil Ochs, Mr. Smith s laments about the state of his beloved country, end on a note of optimism: Uncle Sam If it rains on the fourth of July Just make a wish with The two cents China lent And light a sparkler for the American Dream. Uncle Sam, Uncle Sam Oh say can you see that Things can be so much better Than they seem? We can have the American Dream. Poems of quiet despair- the marvelous sequence of Syracuse Winter poems, 10 in all- are balanced by poems of celebration, humor and strength, such as Cups of Steam a funny evocation of the entrepreneur of a local diner and Birthday Party a lovely fantasy of dead rock stars- Hendrix, Lennon, Joplin, Morrison and a rock star from another era, Mozart!- helping to celebrate the author s birthday at the...

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