

Sand Castles

Under the full afternoon sun
we build towers, bridges and moats
then jump and tease at the cool waves.
Hunger finally drives us home
but we return again to
catch falling stars in cheap beer
and warm ourselves one side at a time
by the sparking driftwood fire.
What once was burning sand
now chills our toes and ankles.
Leaning my tired back
against a hard drifted log
we watch shimmering waves
as I let cool sand slip
from my hand into your.

(published in Trail Ridge Writers Anthology)

Roadtrip Radio

In a blue Datsun I sing with Carolyn
as the radio stations tune in and out.
We know the first seven words
of every other song and portions of
most of their overplayed choruses.

But we sing with full lungs
until we run out of words.

And still, the road has no end.

The little car joins in our songs
with wordless hums and moans
as we lose all stations to static
between the deep red hills of Utah.

(published in Trail Ridge Writers Anthology)

Spinning

On a certain Tuesday night
characters meet at the laundromat
flip flops shush along yellowed linoleum
quarters jingle
quarters jangle
zippers slam dryer walls
sitcoms buzz absent ears
sheets flap themselves into folds

On a certain Tuesday night
characters meet at the laundromat
helping the laundromat family
make a living
one quarter jingle
two quarters jangle
at a time

For this Baby

3 scans of cream wool
perfect for a boy or a girl
Cast on 92 stitches and knit 6 rows
This doesn't sound too difficult

Knit 4, purl 4, knit 4 repeat
Knit 4, purl 4, knit 4 repeat

Will this baby become a helicopter pilot
a dancer, an accountant, a mud puddle maker?

Purl 4, knit 4, purl 4 repeat
Purl 4, knit 4, purl 4 repeat

Baseballs and Barbies
Tonkas and Teacups
Hotwheels and Hairties
Then the yarn catches on yesterday's paper cut
Fire engines and Fireflies

Knit 4, purl 4, knit 4 repeat
Knit 4, purl 4, knit 4 repeat

Continue until you have just enough yarn left
to complete the 6 row border

I pray this baby will be healthy
I purl for health
I pray for happiness
I purl for happiness
I purl 4, knit 4, purl 4 repeat
For this baby