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Empty Nest

Constance Vogel
College of DuPage

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Empty Nest
Constance Vogel

I could take up the piano again
or learn to weave a basket,
but that tranquil lake
does not hold enough waves for me.

I want to stay overnight
without a toothbrush,
throw parking tickets in the street,
unbalance my checkbook,
board a space shuttle,
rise above a soundless patchwork world,
float on a black spangled bed;
not worry that snow has etched an ink blot
on the kitchen wall,
that the cat might break down
into bits of fur and bone,
but my lungs might explode
from the air of silence.