Inside Out

A cocoon is woven in the corner of the window.

Threads of feeling bind me tight, moth ghost within the skin.

Inside out I see myself: split shoe sole, heavy, heavy silver ring, feather-hair.

I see my hands
draw trembling cobweb lines
with an old black steel pen,
gouge the paper
with a ballpoint;
despair,
and kick the split-soled pointed shoe
at a demon who
hovers there:

New Domicile

I rented this house
with a locust tree
and no back yard,
only some steps
and a locust tree.
A ground-floor apartment
on a city street,
and I have this locust tree
to contemplate
and a sift of soot
on the windowsill.

-- Gloria Kenison

Honest John

I'll talk when I have something to say he snapped never spoke again while Girard the fool pirouetted and sometimes rose in cool green flames.

-- Charles Farber
Springfield, Mass.