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Walking Provo Canyon

Loretta M. Sharp

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Walking Provo Canyon

At dawn the wind
delivered the oaks
of their last papery leaves,

and I saw that someone had scattered
the hornet's nest you nailed
to the maple tree.

At the spot where we saw the snake slip
its thin skin,
I stopped, listened

to the corn husks
we'd shucked east of the cabin.
They rattled the death of all green things.

—Loretta M. Sharp

Loretta M. Sharp established the writing program at the Interlochen Arts Academy, Interlochen, Michigan, in 1976. She has taught at the Academy for fourteen years.