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POETRY | SPRING 2014

## Ode to Color

By Karen George

“Thank you God for the sun that shines through the colorful glass on the sill.”  
—Item #12 on Richard’s gratitude list

We shared a love of color, believed  
its energy healed. You owned  
pigmented bath oils—  
yellow for clarity, green for balance,  
and a stack of thick sheets of paper—  
saturated single colors to meditate on.

I revel in the aqua sea, sun infused,  
in the painting above my couch, the vine  
outside my window, heart-shaped  
leaves the color of black plums,  
the faceted garnet, set in gold—  
the wedding ring you gave me.

How grateful I am  
that a month from the end  
of your life you still found joy  
in sun reflected through jewel-toned bottles  
lining the ceiling-high window ledge.

The faceted shadows,  
(emeralds, rubies, sapphires),  
shifted on the sea-foam carpet  
as the sun veered west—  
a progression of symbols,  
hieroglyphs.

I’ll never forget the time  
you draped a violet transparency  
over the sun-porch window,  
how you shimmered,  
bathed in its shadow.

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**Karen George, author of *Into the Heartland* (Finishing Line Press, 2011) and *Inner Passage* (Red Bird Chapbooks, 2014), has published in *Memoir*, *Tupelo Press 30/30 Website*, *Louisville Review*, *Wind*, *Border Crossing*, *Permafrost*, and *Still*. She has been awarded grants from The Kentucky Foundation for Women and The Kentucky Arts Council. She holds an MFA in Writing from Spalding University, and reviews poetry at *Poetry Matters* <http://readwritepoetry.blogspot.com/>.**

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