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## Giraffe

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*College of DuPage*

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# Giraffe

Wilda Morris

You dream there is a giraffe  
on the roof. I bring him down  
to the street, ride him through  
the neighborhood.

I slap his neck gently,  
take off at a gallop  
for Lyman Woods.  
Careful not to trample  
trillium, wild hyacinth,  
trout lily, we nibble  
leaves of ancient oaks,  
drink from the shallow waters  
of the marsh. Red-winged  
blackbirds settle on his neck,  
thick as sparrows  
on a power line.

Don't seek me at home.  
I'm intoxicated by adventure.  
We're cantering east,  
toward the Atlantic.  
We'll take a ship to Africa,  
head for the Kalahari.

And don't send the police  
to get this giraffe back.  
He says you never owned him.