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## looking glass

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# looking glass

— Carole Z. Spinelli

With just a narrow beam of light,  
so late upon a starry night, I walk  
along a wooded path where leaves drip down  
a dewy bath upon me.

There, right beyond the final bend  
where woods and path conspire to end, emerges  
sacred Vesper Rock, totem pole, weathered dock, and  
Spirits of the soul.

Extending to a distant line  
of hardwood trees and needly pine,  
as flat and clear as polished steel — a lake  
so calm that I can feel its presence, greater  
than my own.

Suspended white with solemn grace  
across the black of heaven's face, infinities  
of nameless stars and distances  
beyond all fars that I  
can comprehend.

And then, a miracle appears  
not seen before in all the years  
that I have stood along a shore and pondered  
what a star is for  
on nights like this.

Upon the surface of the deep, in memory  
for me to keep,  
descending from the boldest light  
to touch the waters of the night  
the image of a

Star.