

Fall 12-1-2017

## Mills Park on Marion Street

Raymond Ziemer  
*College of DuPage*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr>

---

### Recommended Citation

Ziemer, Raymond (2017) "Mills Park on Marion Street," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 40 : No. 1 , Article 32.  
Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol40/iss1/32>

This Selection is brought to you for free and open access by the College Publications at DigitalCommons@COD. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Prairie Light Review by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@COD. For more information, please contact [orenick@cod.edu](mailto:orenick@cod.edu).

## Mills Park on Marion Street

Raymond Ziemer

Little Tommy took fright  
When a sudden breeze gusted  
And mustered a battalion  
Of hickory leaves,  
Rattling them over the grass in our path.  
Wide-eyed he witnessed the grim transformation  
Of his peaceful park landscape  
To a suddenly hostile, malevolent world  
Where docile leaf litter could rise up with menace  
And assail him in chattering terror.  
“Don’t be afraid,”  
I called out, demonstrating  
How to stamp down the dry leaves,  
Halting the flutter of their steady advance.  
So one at a time  
Tommy stomped them to bits,  
Crunched the leaves into flakes that just winnowed away.  
Now Tommy’s a man  
And he’s bigger than me  
And he’s not very fearful of much,  
But he wears the same aspect of childish delight  
When he tromps down his troubles and smiles.  
Me - I panic a little to hear the leaves skitter,  
See them rise up in my way,  
And I can’t stop the onrushing windstorm of days.  
Though I tramp ever desperate amid the wild flurry  
The leaves just keep tumbling by.