

KAREN L. GEORGE

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Lip of the Well

Where water—inlaid with diamonds—  
Knows stones, and emerald mosses grow,  
Shall you and I read the summer away,  
Fathom the Book of Thirst?

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## ABOUT THE POEM & AUTHOR

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“Lip of the Well” is composed from words in Emily Dickinson’s poem 460, “I know where Wells grow—Droughtless Wells—.”

About the poem and its composition Karen says:

“I’ve become addicted to writing found poems. It’s just one way to honor the poets whose work speaks to me—in this case Emily Dickinson, and so I also tried to use capitalization in the non-standard way she did. My process for writing found poems is to write words from the source on a separate paper, and scan those words, say them aloud, until I zero in on one word, then another, until images arise that I write on a blank page. When they begin to interact, I modify, rearrange and shape these images into a poem. I find writing found poems satisfying because they often lead me into places I might not have gone before.”

Karen L. George is the author of *Inner Passage* (Red Bird Chapbooks 2014), *Swim Your Way Back* (Dos Madres Press 2014), and *The Fire Circle* (Blue Lyra Press 2016). Her work has appeared in *Naugatuck River Review*, *America*, *The Adirondack Review*, *The Louisville Review*, and *Still*. She received an MFA in fiction from Spalding University, serves as the fiction editor for *Waypoints*, and reviews poetry and interviews poets at *Poetry Matters*. She also participates in The Greater Cincinnati Writers League and the Cincinnati Writers Project poetry critique groups. A retired computer programmer, Karen lives in Florence, Kentucky. Online at [karenlgeorge.snack.ws](http://karenlgeorge.snack.ws).

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