

Eve Takes to the Air

The wind descends, pronounces her name  
says, *Come nearer*, presses his open mouth on hers

fills her with the idea they trade places for a day  
he in the lowlands, she high in the sky

She receives him, dissolves  
into heat, becomes clear

Comprised of charged pressure  
she streams over mountain, desert

develops ways to go lower, higher  
more and less intense, how to diminish

still above sea to observe fish  
storm through miles of corn

No boundaries, she can range everywhere  
reach all latitudes, blow away fog, cloud, rain, heat

Can cause ocean currents  
break things apart

By night, a dense heaviness  
being open too wide, raw

incapable of distinguishing  
herself from air

She projects, radiates  
reaches for land

filling with life  
falling



## ABOUT THE POEM & AUTHOR

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“Eve Takes to the Air” is crafted from words found in “Part I, Africa” of *The Climates of the Continents* (1922) by W. G. Kendrew. About her process of composition Karen says:

I browse the source documents and select words I enjoy the sounds of, or those that suggest intriguing ideas and/or images, writing those words on a lined 8 x 10 tablet in columns according to parts of speech. I then pair a word in one column with a word in another column, for example, a noun with a verb, until images surface and begin to connect to other images, until a narrative forms. It’s an intriguing, magical process for me.

Karen L. George is the author of *Swim Your Way Back* (Dos Madres Press 2014) and *The Fire Circle* (Blue Lyra Press 2016); she is also one of the co-authors (with Donelle Dreese, Nancy Jentsch, and Taunja Thomson) of *Frame and Mount the Sky* (Finishing Line Press 2017). Her work has appeared in *The Adirondack Review*, *Naugatuck River Review*, *The Louisville Review*, and *3Elements Review*. A retired computer programmer, she is the fiction editor for *Waypoints*, and she reviews poetry and interviews poets at *Poetry Matters*. She lives in Florence, Kentucky. Online at [karenlgeorge.snack.ws](http://karenlgeorge.snack.ws).

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