

LOU ELLA HICKMAN

crossing

see there are
ferry boats
that cross to my shore
clouds are more
you suppose

ABOUT THE POEM & AUTHOR

Lou Ella Hickman created “crossing” from “Crossing Brooklyn Ferry” by Walt Whitman (1856). About the poem and the process of composing it, Lou Ella writes:

I chose the poem “Crossing Brooklyn Ferry” by Walt Whitman, which I found in *Leaves of Grass*. I employed a word count technique which I have developed for writing found poems. I chose the number five, which means I count for every five words and then list the fifth word on a separate page. I did this for the entire first stanza. Then using that list I pieced together this poem.

Lou Ella Hickman is the author of *she: robed and wordless* (Press 53 2015). Her work has also appeared in *The New Verse News*, *Commonweal*, *Emmanuel*, *U.S. Catholic*, *Sojourners*, and elsewhere. She lives in Corpus Christi, Texas.

