

DEBORAH PURDY

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Away from Home

I used to make  
markings on the curves—

a series of letters,  
the same words

like tiny planets,  
their own circles

enough to give you the idea  
of our world.

## ABOUT THE POEM & AUTHOR

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“Away from Home” was created from *Letters of a Radio-Engineer to His Son* by John Mills (1922). About the poem and the process of composing it, Deborah Purdy writes:

I skimmed through the text and compiled a selection of words and phrases to create a word/phrase bank of potential lines for the poem. After making selections for lines that fit the theme of the poem, I combined them to create stanzas with meaningful context. I then rearranged the stanzas into the form of the poem.

Deborah Purdy is the author of *Two Moons* (rinky dink press 2020), *Mermaids in the Basement* (dancing girl press 2021), and *Conjuring an Epiphany* (Finishing Line Press 2022). Her work has also appeared in *Black Bough Poetry*, *The Wild Word*, *Gingerbread House*, *Mom Egg Review*, *Moving Images: Poetry Inspired by Film*, and elsewhere. She lives in the Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania.

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