

KAREN GEORGE

Become Like the Sea, A Vessel

Lace the years back
to a time of voyage.
Arrive green,
flee into curiosity,
untie order, reach
a place sunk
in wonder,
a quiet cove.

ABOUT THE POEM & AUTHOR

“Become Like the Sea, A Vessel” was created from “Circe’s Palace” in *Tanglewood Tales* by Nathaniel Hawthorne (1853). About the poem and the process of composing it, Karen George writes:

I selected Nathaniel Hawthorne’s story “Circe’s Palace” because I liked the title, and after browsing the words on its pages, decided on page 73 because several words pulled me in: *sea, vessel, lace, green, wonder, and cove*. I began working forward and backward to see what words went with them to form some kind of scene, image, or idea.

Karen George is the author of *Swim Your Way Back* (Dos Madres Press 2014), *A Map and One Year* (Dos Madres Press 2018), and *Where Wind Tastes Like Pears* (Dos Madres Press 2021). Her work has appeared in *Sheila-Na-Gig Online*, *I-70 Review*, *The Ekphrastic Review*, *Writing in a Woman’s Voice*, *Poet Lore*, and elsewhere. She lives in Florence, Kentucky, and can be found online at karenlgeorge.blogspot.com.

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