

so damp  
so gray  
But now  
so black and white  
and hard and dry  
forgetting inheritance  
forgetting faith  
commanding the gray that  
walked  
from walking  
between ponds  
between piano keys

## To My Teacher

*Darlene Young*

*In Memoriam: D. Brent Collette, Institute Teacher, Berkeley, California  
(died November 2000)*

You light between tall trees, never trip  
on roots—and yet leave heavy footprints.  
Bounding toward the surf, you pause for me:  
together we will touch the sacred.  
You dance barefoot before mystery.  
At once lamb and lion, holy fierce  
in childlike wonder, serpent wisdom,  
you tune your ears to hidden music:  
intelligence, the glory of God.