

Unbelievable

by George Ella Lyon

The last time I saw you
you were wearing a red dress.
Now, Lee, in the twenty-plus
years of our friendship,
I have never known you
to wear any dress, much less red.
And that coffin—what kind
of prank was that?

I wanted to say
C'mon Bear, get up!
Put on your jeans
and turtleneck
and let's go walk the mountain.
It's April
and everybody in this bunch
is planning to go to the cemetery.

We need to head out
where the poems are.
Don't let yourself be carried away
by all this grief
wearing that red dress
you'd never be caught dead in.