

Darrell Petska

Uninvited

The hammers, saws and levels come
noisy with plans and drawings.
Who signs their license?

What fault is homeliness,
what law writes such tumult
for rooms proven by living, floors

strong despite time's weight? Here,
a new room arises, there windows
darken or gape toward elsewhere--

even the ceiling's constellations
shift quadrants. Nothing goes untouched
by the change pushers' hands.

Now furniture must be moved, pictures
rehung, acquaintance made with spaces
each speaking some other tongue.

Uninvited, they descend on a chance wind,
hunting complacency. How quickly
they arrive at comfort's address.

Darrell Petska grew up on a Nebraska farm, helped raise five kids while working as an engineering editor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and now continues writing about the lot of it. Some past or forthcoming publications include: *San Pedro River Review*, *Verse Wisconsin*, *Red River Review*, *New Verse News*, *Quantum Poetry Magazine*, *Modern Haiku*.