

Louisa Clerici

Riff

Music, baby, it's the church of life
Raises up your tiny soul, an infant into baptism
Cool waters become strings of a violin
Notes of an inner clarity
Screams and whimpers
replace groping drums of everyday chatter
a canary looks into your eyes
flight

Music toddles into towers of uncertainty
Shakes up road noise into orchestrated clues
Shrieks and bellows
Seasons of delight become new riffs
Soothing the mind, taming the beast of silence
Notes hanging on the wind
Waiting to be heard voyages
Whispers

Louisa Clerici's poetry has been published in literary anthologies and magazines including *Carolina Woman Magazine*, *Ibbetson Street #33 and #37*, *Shore Voices*, *The Shine Journal*, *Tidepool Poets*, *City Lights*, *Davis California Book Project*, *Oddball Magazine*, *Old Colony Memorial Newspaper*, *The Boston Poet*, *National Poetry Day*, *Do Not Give Me Things Unbroken*, *Unlocking the Poem*, *The Istanbul Literary Review*, *Bagels with the Bards #4 -9* and *Off the Coast*. Louisa Clerici's poetry was chosen for the 2014 Mayor's Prose & Poetry Boston City Hall Program commemorating the Boston Marathon tragedy of 2013 and her poetry was featured at SWAN 2013, Support Women Artists Now. Louisa is a winner in the Soul-making Literary Competition of the *National League of American Pen Women* and a winner in The Fine Print writing contest for her poem "A Little East Franklin Sugar." Louisa has performed at the National Poetry Slam in Austin, Texas and has participated in the Plymouth Center for the Arts, Visual Inverse Program, 2012 -2015. Her poem won the Visual Inverse Popular Vote in 2013. She presented at the Massachusetts Poetry Festival in 2012 and featured at the 7th Poetry Showcase, Plymouth, MA, The Art of Words.