

Ann Mirabile Lees

Storm Warning

I wake in the night
from the fathomless sleep of a child
terrified to see a polar bear lurking
under my brother's bed,
terrified to learn that my mother
refuses to rescue us.

My brother and I escape on our bicycles
to the store where baseball cards are sold
to kids who play Marbles every recess
and feel sad when their favorite agate
is knocked out of the magic circle
drawn in the school yard dirt.

The bear continues to pace.

Ann Mirabile Lees is a retired research physician and a Massachusetts poet. Starting with her high school year book, her poems have been published in the *Charles River Review*; the four issues of a short-lived journal, *Vineyard's Writing*; an anthology, *Martha's Vineyard Poets*; *Minerva Rising*; *Clementine Poetry Journal*, the *Martha's Vineyard Times*, and the Fall 2018 issue of *The Muddy River Poetry Review*. In 2012, Antrim House published her chapbook, *Night Spirit*.