

Diane Giardi

Refrigerator Queen

I realize,
past my beauty prime,
that I will never be on the cover
of Vogue or Elle Magazine.
But...
I saw
my face
on THREE
refrigerator doors.
Reaching for milk and eggs
my breath stopped.
Good friends
cared enough
to see my face
time and again through
daily and nightly kitchen romps
on their pristine, white-enameled,
glistening pedestal
of food, nurturance,
pleasure, nutrition,
escape,
center of familydom,
cool blasts of Freon.
Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.
I am honored,
proud as icebox cookies
to be a Refrigerator Queen.

Diane Giardi is a Visual Artist, Arts Educator and Poet, who lives with her husband in Gloucester, MA. She is an Adjunct Professor of Art at Endicott College in Beverly, MA. Diane has an MFA in Ceramics from Syracuse University and a BS in Art Education from The University of Vermont. She exhibits her work nationally and her poetry has been published in the *Yale Journal of Humanities in Medicine*, *Long Island Sounds*, *The Journal of Clinical Nursing*, *The Endicott Review* and recently accepted in *The Ann Arbor Review*. She is a member of the Massachusetts State Poetry Society and the North Shore Poets Forum.