

Jay Mower

SOUND OF ABSENCE

I hear the dog breathe, the walls sigh.
Mirth and Joy disappear into the woodwork,
Peter Rabbit and Dr. Seuss retire to the bookshelf.
Kings, queens, jacks no longer at hand,
await the next war in the old desk drawer,
toys and games recover in the oak wood chest,
the land of counterpane rests in the linen closet.
Disney no longer omnipresent in the airwaves,
is just part of the memory.
The house is quiet and the dog lonely.

Jay M. Mower is a retired advertising professor, marketing executive and consultant, living in San Diego now focusing on self-expression through poetry. In addition to *Muddy River Poetry Review*, he has poems in two local anthologies, the *Acorn Review*, *Summation* and is one of the International Merit Award winners in the 2014 *Atlanta Review International Poetry Competition*. He has authored three chapbooks: *Light Medium Dark*, *Different Voices* and *Along the Way*.