

Keith Tornheim

Next Dance

for Susan

They were playing a waltz,
violin and piano,
and I remembered...
you in your wedding dress,
shimmering white,
as we danced the first dance,
familiar even then
our moving together,
light on our feet,
you light in my arms,
our smiles so wide,
eyes just for each other.
So I've come to this room
and held out my hand,
drew you away
from that conversation,
to dance in the hallway,
our smiles so wide,
eyes just for each other.

Keith Tornheim, a biochemistry professor at Boston University School of Medicine, has five recent books, *I Am Lilith*, *Dancer on the Wind*; *Spirit Boat: Poems of Crossing Over*; *Can You Say Kaddish for the Living?*; *Fireflies: Poems of Love and Family*; and *Spoiled Fruit: Adam and Eve in Eden and Beyond*. His poems have appeared in *Ibbetson Street*, *The Somerville Times*, *Boston Literary Magazine*, *Muddy River Poetry Review* and *Poetica*.