

# Sounds Came & Went

*by* Carl Santoro

There were noises that cascaded over my hair  
into my ears today.

The grinding gears of a battle  
between the garbage truck and  
a FedEx truck for right of way.

The clacking of keys on an iPhone  
until they got their message across.

The ever so slight  
patters of the pads  
of the cat's approach and departure.

That bird flashing by  
sending out loud cries  
of information,  
then disappearing repeating  
its important messages into  
the cobalt blue above.

The somewhat, somehow,  
comforting soft horn blasts  
of a distant train mindful  
of its tracks ahead.

The inevitable thud as  
a television remote meets the floor  
spilling its contents out,  
plastic disassembling,  
regurgitating double A's  
all akimbo.

The paper of the news - the newsy paper -  
the papery news,  
being touched, pinched, flipped  
licked, lifted and flipped.

The desperate beeping from a microwave,  
a dishwasher, a refrigerator, air fryer  
mad because I'm not standing there at attention.

Branches brushing against my suburban  
aluminum fortress,  
thwacking exterior walls because of wind,  
then falling silent.

Me forcing lead to scratch paper.  
Make it speak, make it speak  
my words!

The no-sound sound of  
the blinking cursor prompt  
////////(only straighter)  
silent but always wanting.

I'm exhausted.  
The sighing out.  
The....

