

new world

by Gary Percesepe

all that brown hair unbuttoned
you above me beneath me beside me beyond me
love licked us
like running wolves

then slowly drained of all our dreams
we faced the ordinary wicked days
alone but unforgotten
stripped of all that had been

snow tires gripped pavement
in an endless skid
long slow kitchen kisses
fights & hugs at the dishwasher

can memory freeze in place like this?
as in death our deeds follow us
your parted lips my eager tongue
the heart soon followed

the living room sofa where you unbuttoned me
wait, how can you occupy the sofa now?
you sit there with your new lover
pushed past pity into the new world

the poet amounted his affair
summed it at five months
licked his ice cream cone
and melted

