

# Community

*by* Kitty Boots

Norwegian fjord horses are tough  
but will founder on spring grass  
too lush

Medina, green-eyed, beautiful desert-daughter is not self-conscious  
in her head scarf  
Aziz will not return to the souks of Morocco  
he may leave for Baltimore

the Salvadorans have asked for English lessons  
the kitchen is a prison  
Mansoor is in college studying film making  
Ayalah studies in Dubai  
Suliman reads stacks of books and eats candy bars  
as I share hugs and tears with his mother

the grandmothers are proud  
there are too few grandfathers  
Bonafacio has five daughters, he says,  
"they are making me poor!"  
the eldest one helps him make copies of all his papers

bees are confused because of the whacked-out winter  
Jasmine, trans, is lovelier each day  
she still likes baseball and has already gotten a pedicure for Spring

Kelly remains in hiding  
she fears the men in pick-up trucks with snakes on their license  
plates  
the bathroom petition at church, the Turkey Shoot

Danny is taking his son to the reservation

some of the Old Ones still speak the language  
and he does not trust the history books to tell the truth  
he wants Joseph to hear the Trickster stories  
he wants to see him on a shaggy pony, braids flying  
wearing an eagle feather

Arturo is operating a backhoe  
his roofing crew went back to their villages  
Sancho was sleeping with their wives

Maria's hens are laying well, she brings me eggs  
I try to explain Ground Hog Day to her  
she gives me a puzzled look

