

That's the Thing About Stardust

Lyndi Waters

Nobody knows where it's been, where it's going, or why. Even less about the little brain flash that shows up on scans right before a thought, the spark that singes the eyelashes of free-will warriors, but leaves me wondering if Nature laughed when she made us out of the same stuff as a coffee table. I sit here by the fire with a sweet puppy snoring at my feet and lots of food in the pantry. I can hear that the toilet handle needs rattled, but I'm thinking about the atoms that have sifted down through sailors and Irish land barons, farm wives, fishermen, and at least one homicidal maniac, and I wonder if they, too, thought they had some place really important to be.

Lyndi Waters is a Pushcart Prize nominee, winner of the Frank Nelson Doubleday Memorial Writing Award, the Eugene V. Shea National Poetry Contest, and the 2019 Wyoming Writers, Inc. free verse contest. Her writing has been published, or is forthcoming, in literary magazines and anthologies such as *The Owen Wister Review*, *Gyroscope Review*, *Unbroken Journal*, *Cease, Cows, Blood, Water, Wind, and Stone: An Anthology of Wyoming Writers* (Sastrugi Press, 2016,) *Troubadour* (Picaroon Poetry Press, U.K., 2017,) and others. She lives in Wyoming with five chickens, and a couple of dogs.