

## Time's Nest

Time passed through town  
And stole all the children.  
Left behind  
Awkward boys with cracking voices  
And girls who sulk  
Amid torn stuffed animals  
And tiny dresses.

Time stole the strength  
Of fishermen who once pulled in  
Full nets of salmon,  
And curved the backs of the women  
Who stayed home to garden  
Leaving old people  
Bent like branches  
Under the snow.

Time climbs into every house  
And keeps taking, taking,  
The color out of people's hair  
The dog from their yard  
And the cartilage from their knees.

Time cuts the people out of photographs  
Leaving only memories  
Then comes back

And steals those too.  
Time, I cannot stop you  
From weaving your nest  
out of the details of our lives  
So I endure your thieving ways  
As you pick like a magpie  
Through these years.