Hand in Hand [1]

May 6, 2019 Featured Poetry [2]

Two Poems by Carol Dorf

Hand in Hand

With both hands, say *concentration*,
as in beating egg whites, or mending a rip,

or assembling a new sofa that you hope
will lead to family togetherness, all heaped

(function(i,s,o,g,r,a,m){i['GoogleAnalyticsObject']=r;i[r]=i[r]||function(){ (i[r].q=i[r].q||[]).push(arguments)},i[r].l=1*new Date();a=s.createElement(o), m=s.getElementsByTagName(o)[0];a.async=1;a.src=g;m.parentNode.insertBefore(a,m) })(window,document,'script','https://www.google-analytics.com/analytics.js','ga'); ga('create', 'UA-18260536-1', 'auto'); ga('send', 'pageview');

there reading your books, or be real,
watching the same show. Pleasure

focuses on the instant and doesn't worry

about what has come before. Pleasure
does not read the paper or anyone's tweets.

With both hands, hold someone, which could include
the cat, explain dark matter in a gesture.

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If Not Now?

Do you want to see *me*

in that alternate version

of our lives?

I would like

you to know I'm an expert

in determining one fabric

in relation to another.

Don't be sorry to call—

I accept

communications

and feel little compunction

to refrain from hanging up.

No one would know

looking at me now

but I could pogo

for most of a party

and then shout slogans

at the demo the next morning.

You sing

about bombs, disruption.

Let me ask you,

What comes next?

Art Information

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- “Happiness [3]” and “Smile [4]” © Fabio Sassi; used by permission.

Carol Dorf is poetry editor of *Talking Writing*. Her chapbook *Theory Headed Dragon* is available through Finishing Line Press. Her poetry has been published in *Glint*, *Slipstream*, *Spillway*, *Sin Fronteras*, *Antiphon*, *About Place*, *Journal of Humanistic Mathematics*, *Scientific American*, *Best of Indie Lit New England*, and elsewhere. She teaches mathematics in Berkeley, California.

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