



### **Campers at the End of the Season**

The last campers in Loop B,  
we watched as rangers  
zipped about in golf carts, dragged  
picnic tables over fire rings.

The sun hidden  
and revealed,  
hidden and revealed as the clouds  
raced across the morning blue.

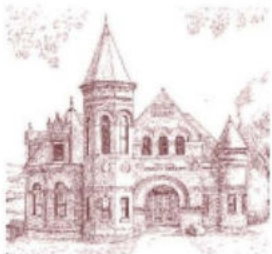
One final canoe paddle.  
Glacial lake full of tangled  
tree branches, loon song.  
We forgot the life jackets

and felt free, unencumbered  
by the extra weight.  
Back at the shore  
how it enters the mind so quickly again,

the worry. First when packing—  
each object a direct link to place,  
and then again on the drive home,  
as we move toward everything

we left behind.

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