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¹The interviews were conducted by Laura Norton with the assistance of Susan Judith Ship, during the fall of 1998, as part of a larger project for the National Indian and Inuit Community Health Representatives Organization.

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JOANNA M. WESTON

To Imagine Peace

is this how the sky falls
full of white crosses
from war cemeteries
all over the world

it falls on women in blue dresses
who open their mouths
and drink snow
not understanding the scars
they will wear in the morning
on hands and feet
when the wars are over
and the men are gone

is this how the sky falls
emptying trees of sparrows
who are tossed—each small brown
into fires that rage
in Dieppe, Berlin, Belfast and Guatemala
until the last burrowing owl mates with a
rabbit
and women lie vacant amidst fescue and
clover
watching as maples throw leaves in their eyes
and vetch grows through their hands

Joanna M. Weston, born in England, is married, and has three sons and two cats. A chocoholic writer, knitter, and gardener, she has published internationally for many years in journals and anthologies. She lives in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.