

become familiar with computers in a non-stressful environment, as well as to "catch up" to boys experience levels. Furthermore, teachers should refrain from using gender inappropriate software in the classroom, that is, software that is targeted only for boys. As well, teachers could teach the history of computers and programming and include the contributions of women so that boys and girls receive an unbiased understanding of how technologies were developed and by whom. Finally, teachers should allow a greater variety of intellectual styles to flourish in relation to computer

use in the classroom. Girls need to be taught to not only become familiar with the existing uses of the computer but also be encouraged to make their own creative decisions about how computers could be used in relation to their own lives. All of these strategies bring girls closer to technology as well as draw us one step closer to achieving our educational goals. This is an exciting time in the field of technology and education, together we can ensure that women are equal partners in the discovery, planning, and benefits of cyberspace.

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## MICHELE LEAR

### End of the Affair

What's been lost:  
 footsteps after dark,  
 soft steps to a bed  
 ringed with memories  
 more important than itself,  
 though  
 smaller.

This should not end in  
 brass bangs into soft plaster,  
 softer for your wear,  
 her silence.  
 Her, your willing  
 accomplice.

Is this possible?  
 That time would  
 ease  
 the walk straight down the  
 garden path,  
 the blame, the guilt,  
 freeing loss of desire.

*Michele Lear's work has been published in the Newfoundland Quarterly, Wayzgoose, and Generations.*