

AMERICAN LIFE IN POETRY

A FREE COLUMN FOR NEWSPAPERS BY TED KOOSER, POET LAUREATE OF THE UNITED STATES, 2004-2006
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American Life in Poetry: Column 558

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE, 2004-2006

I'm well into my seventies, and I warm to simple, peaceful scenes. Here's a fine love poem by Patricia Traxler, a Kansas poet, whose newest book, *Naming the Fires*, will be out in early 2016.

Weather Man

When it snows, he stands
at the back door or wanders
around the house to each
window in turn and
watches the weather
like a lover. O farm boy,
I waited years
for you to look at me
that way. Now we're old
enough to stop waiting
for random looks or touches
or words, so I find myself
watching you watching
the weather, and we wait
together to discover
whatever the sky might bring.

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