

First Day

The ambulance sirens of this hospital's
neighborhood,
 And the newly married's processional honks
Are dimmed by your gentle sighs and suckings,
 Your discovery of face and fingers,
And the fairy-like boundary of your blanket.

We have brought you into the world
 Only to wander along with us
Through the sounds of traffic, dogs barking,
 Newspapers flopping on the porch, phones
 ringing,
And leaves rustling impatiently in basement
window wells.

We have brought you along to see how wide the
ocean is,
 The swaying of wind-blown trees,
And arcs of searching birds.
 We have brought you to play with household
 cats,
With credit cards and doll houses made of dreams
and cardboard.

But we have brought you along on our journey of
life
 To find something we have found –
Someone we have met along the way
 Who makes our wanderings always come to
 rest
In places of peace and quiet joy.

Now we carry you, only later to lead you by your
hand.

 But soon you too will meet this One
Who has carried us and lead us by the hand;
 One Who is with you and your mother and I
 always –
Even on the untraveled paths of the earth.

