

Winds Howl

Winds howl in resentment
of bitterness of winter
locked out of homes
with warmth of community

Winds howl driving
snow and ice
trees bow low
limbs break and fall
rending power lines asunder

Winds howl in this now
black and blue night

I peers out to streets
houses without light
without heat
a sense of togetherness
has been whirled away

Each family is isolated
steeped in forsakenness
seeking survival
steeped in fright

Winds howl
or do I imagine
wolves commiserating
in their chilling plight

Here and there a flicker
a candle or lamp is lit
Hope crowds out
the darkness
flame and fire
the deep aloneness
of the neighborhood

Is it a flame upon which
we build clan and right
Winds howl on
without feeling or respite