

Stick Houses

"Little pig, little pig, let me come in."

"No, not, by the hair on my chinny chin chin."

"Then I'll huff, and I'll puff, and I'll blow your house in."

Sheltering in place,
we starve for companionship,
crave freedom, calm ourselves with walks
six feet apart along cleansing surf.

During morning meanders,
I give thanks for wild iris, gold poppies,
appreciate lace-edged turquoise waves
as they wash granite shoreline.

Despite pandemic, some still gather,
scorn social distancing, hug in greeting,
wander four abreast
along skinny trail.

At Carmel River Lagoon,
an anonymous architect constructs
rustic sticks-and-stone cottage,
evokes little pigs who made fatal choices.



Jennifer Lagier has published seventeen books and in a variety of anthologies and literary magazines, taught with California Poets in the Schools, edits the Monterey Review, helps coordinate Monterey Bay Poetry Consortium Second Sunday readings. Recent publications: Harbinger Asylum, The Rockford Review, Syndic Literary Journal, From Everywhere A Little: A Migration Anthology, Fire and Rain: Eco-poetry of California, Missing Persons: Reflections on Dementia, Silent Screams: Poetic Journeys Through Addiction and Recovery. Newest books: Camille Mobilizes (FutureCycle Press), Trumped Up Election (Xi Draconis Books), and Dystopia Playlist (CyberWit).

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