

Carol Ann Moon – Two Poems

Elegiac Sonnet to 12 and 3

Breast biopsies are tricky
Especially in the Adirondacks
Where you are not sure if you will be killed by a deer on the way to the hospital
Or where you are told the radiologist will listen if you are not numb
Instead he asks if you can push through it, not naming pain
And the little metal marker is left at 12 o'clock
Upon the next visit for the lump at 3 o'clock
You have a plan: small talk
The nurse and her trainees think you are plain crazy
Asking the radiologist what he does in his spare time
He looks like a deer in headlights
(At least the lidocaine has a few extra seconds to work)
He is not an active North Country man, not into mountain crest climbing
But breast drilling - and the little metal marker is left at 3

Elegiac Sonnet to 9 cm

Never do anything half-heartedly
If you are going to have a breast cancer tumor
You need to have one of the larger ones
The surgeon will want to operate
Instead of shrinking the mass
Instead of doing a lumpectomy
Keep the breast in breast cancer! Not!
There will be reconstruction
After chemo
After radiation
After hormone blocking
After the scar across your chest
Is its own aseptic poem
Hailing you as a survivor in this disfiguring war

Carol Ann Moon is a librarian professor at Saint Leo University. She has her MFA from Stetson University. Her poems have appeared in *Sandhill Review*, *Aquifer* and *Philosopher's Stone Poetry*.