

Jac-Lynn Stark -- Two Poems

Bee Poems

1. Be Kind

On World Bee Day I wake up

thinking of yellow
buzzing phone alarm reminds me
how much I always wanted to pet a bumblebee
hold her in my hand
gently caress her fuzzy stripes.
Last week the biggest bee I'd ever seen
was buzzing against my window
as I stirred honey into my tea
wondering how the hell it got trapped
in this messy kitchen with no way out
desperately hurling herself against glass.
I captured her in a mug covered with images
of meadowsweet and swamp thistle and freed her
from my back porch.
Watching her fly away with some reluctance;
I think she looked back to thank me.

2. Beware

The next day my friend got stung
right on the tip of her left big toe
by a yellowjacket that was
lurking in her shoe,
just waiting for the right moment
and my ex-lover told me
a wasp was lying in wait on his pillow
when he laid his head down to sleep,
Thinking of me it stung him
just beneath his eye.
Perhaps a warning.

Jac-Lynn Stark was born in the Bronx and currently lives on the North Shore of Boston where she enjoys pondering life either from near the ocean or in the woods. She teaches English at Bunker Hill Community College in Boston. Some of her previous work has been published in *Global Poemic*, *Drunk Monkeys* and *Zig Zag Folio*.