

Joyce Wilson

Eurydice

After the reading, I followed you
from the darkened auditorium
into the light. I wanted to say
how much I admired your work just then,

yet if I said too much too soon,
I might have persuaded you to turn,
and if you turned to look at me,
to assess your influence on me,

we would have been lost to each other,
and chastened by this vanity,
I might have doubted what I'd heard.

When alone, I'd read your book.
The music would unfold itself
in shadows that I'd make my own.

Joyce Wilson has taught English at Suffolk University and Boston University. She is creator and editor of the magazine on the Internet, *The Poetry Porch* (www.poetryporch.com), which has been on-line since 1997. Her poems have appeared in many literary journals, among them *Salamander*, *Alabama Review*, and *Ibbetson Street Magazine*. Her new chapbook *The Need for a Bridge* and a full-length collection *Take and Receive* were published in 2019.