

## **Karen Friedland**

### **The Poet**

The seriously-published poet  
goes on just a little too long,  
and we collectively lose faith  
in her vaunted words,  
her '70s, New York-style ennui.

She, in turn,  
feels us slipping away like the tide,  
less transfixed by the minute  
by the torrent of honed words  
that had so recently cossetted us.

So she picks up her tempo,  
and we rustle uncomfortably in our seats

craving our own worlds,  
craving release.

A nonprofit grant writer by day, **Karen Friedland**'s poems have been published in the *Lily Poetry Review*, *Nixes Mate Review*, *Muddy River Poetry Review*, *Writing in a Women's Voice*, *Vox Populi*, and others. She currently has a poem hanging on the walls of Boston's City Hall, selected by Boston's Poet Laureate. Her book of poems, *Places That Are Gone*, was published in 2019 by Nixes Mate Books, and she has a chapbook forthcoming in 2021 from Cervena Barva Press. She lives in Boston with her husband, two dogs and two cats.