

## Nancy Shiffrin

### Just Past the Horizon

The Beloved Departed cries out  
what happened to all the ideas we had  
ghosts, spirits, aging research, cryonics,  
soul, resurrection of the body  
that book *Defying Death*  
rejected by the publisher

I stood at his bedside  
we discussed cryonics  
he hoped his body would be frozen  
resurrected in a Shangri-la  
pain, loss, disability mutated away by genetics  
researchers also imagining an ideal world  
his DNA frozen on a slab  
is all I have of him  
a photo on a box of ashes

he wondered at the girl he fell in love with  
porn writer past life seeker poet  
now I wonder if there's a novel there  
a film a pilot for a TV series  
about that young woman so  
full of wonder about the future  
she forgets to wash the dishes

**Nancy Shiffrin** is the author of *The Vast Unknowing*, poems (Infinity Publishing, 2012, BN.com.) She earned her BA at California State College, Northridge, her MA studying with Anais Nin. She earned her PhD at The Union Institute studying Jewish-American women authors. Her writing has appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *New York Quarterly*, *Earth's Daughters*, *Lummox Journal*, *The Canadian Jewish Outlook*, *A Cafe in Space*, *Religion and Literature*, *Shofar* and numerous other publications. She has received awards and honorable mentions from The Academy of American Poets, The Poetry Society of America, The Alice Jackson Foundation, The Dora Teitelboim Foundation and Lummox Journal. Two new poetry collections, *Flight* and *Game With Variations* are forthcoming from wordpoetrybooks.com. She resides in Santa Monica, California, United State with her husband the novelist Thomas Page.