There are no rules
At the end of the world.
Tents cave in on themselves
Like collapsed lungs.
Hearts pound through the night
As bear and fox prowl open foothills
In the dark.

--from “Beast on the Run”

The children are grown.
Cleaned and slaked and
molded into their own designs,
climbing other hillsides now.
--from “Clay”

We talk about what we love.
We see my father on his snowshoes
floating slowly toward us like a mirage.
They are almost holy
these faint marks.
--from “On Leap Year”

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Susan Sanborn Barker (1949-2014) was an
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Collection and College Archives for the past
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11 March 2014 after a long struggle with
polycystic kidney disease. Creative writing
was Susan’s true passion. Many of her poems
were published in The Massachusetts Review,
Dark Horse, and other journals.