

SOME FUNCTIONS OF THE WIND

after Don McKay's "Some Functions of a Leaf"

by Jacqueline Hynes, St. John's – Senior Division Poetry

To wander. To fill the empty
space, the momentary void
where life might once again reside.

To push
against the mountains and the walls alike
never knowing if it is disturbing
more than dust, more than mites.

To hammer at window panes
and threaten to come inside.

To hide
until pressures decide where to go.
To change its mind.

To blow
and fill the sails of ships. To lift
the spirits and the kites of kids.

To tango with dying leaves.
To waltz cheek to cheek
with the needles of pine trees.

To fuel fires
that burn flowers of seeds
once carried
across meadows on a breeze.

To sing
a song in agony
for an end will never come.