

## Wilderness House Literary Review 13/4

*Linda Lerner*

### **Left Unfinished**

bad writing you'd say of  
that seven-hour long sentence  
you ran silently by me in the hospital,

a trick you had  
to leave off writing in mid-sentence  
for something to complete the next day,  
worked you said

so I'm waiting  
like a child who puts a tooth under her pillow  
for the tooth fairy to get and leave  
something in its place, I keep busy

sometimes grab a day  
out of the wrong tense, lift a piece  
of memory and play with the facts  
to right a few wrongs

the grammarian & journalist would  
not have approved, the man who  
didn't know, just how much,  
would have understood