

Wilderness House Literary Review 3/4

Barbara Bialick

The Wind in the War

Like a green hand waving in the wind,
five fingers of shrubbery
at a khaki-colored house
sway like helium balloons
in the high gusts.

But this is no children's party...
rather, it's an apparition of war
confronting a peaceful neighborhood,
where we gaze at our fine politicians
who still won't "end all war"
as some of us dream.

Could we indeed bushwhack war
if there's continued terror in the wind,
which whips the American flag
and grounds airlines which can't afford the
price of petroleum?

The green topiary hand continues to sway,
as surreal as a politician waving
to a mesmerized crowd...