

# Birdbath

by [Jeanne Murray Walker](#) in the [October 18, 2011](#) issue

The tiny whitecaps  
bare their rotten teeth  
all morning  
as wind berates rainwater,  
as razors of rain  
gash its surface  
and then the thunder  
takes back its threats  
and the water in the birdbath  
lies smooth enough to skate on,  
lies like a mirror  
holding up a silver airplane  
while it crosses the sky safely,  
all its people  
drinking from their plastic cups.