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Chasing Weather

Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg

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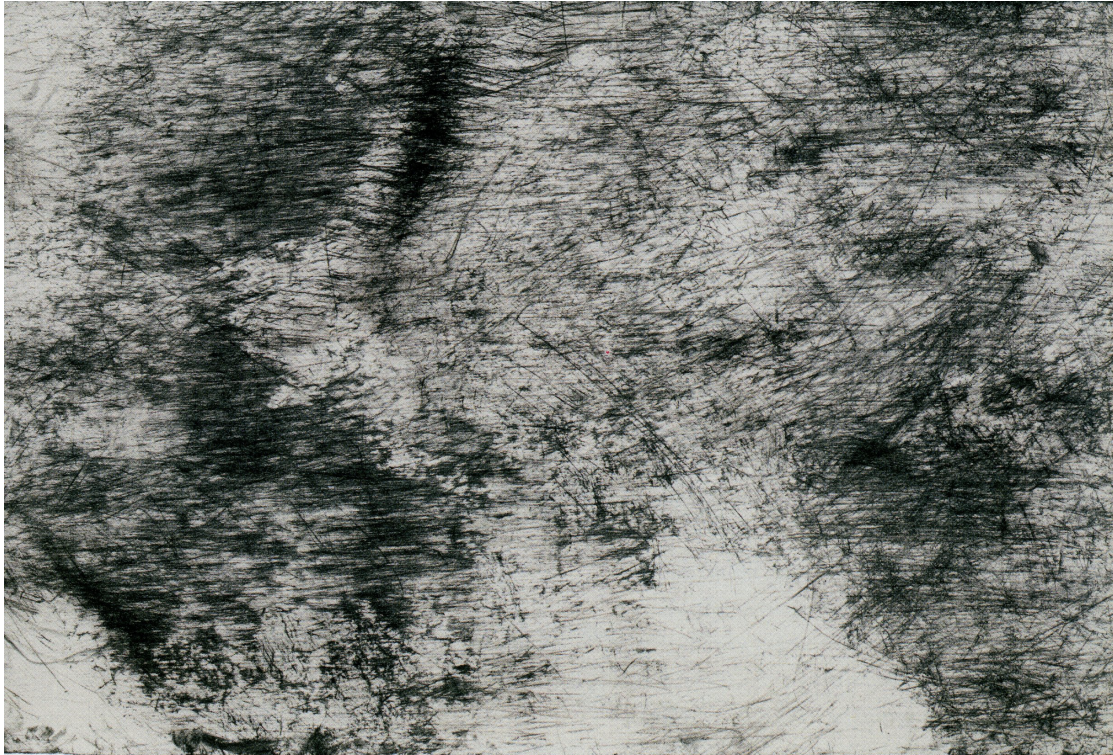
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Transect 2018 000 (remembering waves)

Erin Wiersma

Created on the prairie by dragging, pushing, rubbing, lifting paper after a burn.

CHASING WEATHER

Unpredictable as love that will outlive us,
the clouds fold fast, twist themselves wide.

The supercell spins blades in rusty speed,
then leans to the west, sweetening its tune
by forgetting the melody. The taste of sun lingers.

Crows wait for the shadows the moon will throw.
Wind picks up its luggage, puts it down again
until there is nothing left to move.

What's gone seems gone for good no matter how often
the song returns, broken light reddening the horizon
like a heartbreak or a question we can never get over.

Time chases time. Dirt chases rain. Wind chases everything.
The weather finds us with ease, knowing from long ago
where we live, so why embark on the hunt for what
can never be caught? Let the dark of the dark find you.
Invite the weather in to chase its dreams inside your own.

Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg is a poet, writer and professor. She was the 2009-2013 Poet Laureate of Kansas. Reprinted with permission from "Chasing Weather: Tornadoes, Tempests, and Thunderous Skies in Words and Images" by Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg and Stephen Locke (Ice Cube Press).