

### **A PORTABLE FIRE**

You built a portable fire  
deep in the Shasta Woods  
under the rain-dripped boughs  
of a pine tree on my stormiest day.  
Since then you have remained  
as a portable fire in my heart  
which almost warms  
up to satisfaction  
my smoke-filled memory  
so much so that I still take you  
with me wherever I go.

—Bonnie Raingruber