

### **Ms. Phelan's Litany**

I am the waterfall splashing  
blissfully over the rocks.  
However, I am not the bungee jumper  
perched on the bridge above.

I am the book on the nightstand,  
the corners of my pages folded in.

I am the tour guide ushering people  
through the crowded museum,  
my voice rising above the chaos.

Sometimes I am the teakettle on the stove  
just before the whistle begins to sound.

I may even be the car in the middle of the traffic jam  
occasionally beeping my horn.  
But I am definitely not the one driving  
illegally up the breakdown lane.

But mostly I am the gently winding country road  
where you stop to enjoy the view,  
miles away from the expressway.

And some may say I am the set of bones  
found by the paleontologist;  
just one piece missing.  
An enigma.

But I am definitely the waterfall splashing  
blissfully over the rocks.