

August 6th, The Day I Shot an 87

Jim Read

The putt on 17, for birdie — about 60 feet,
left to right, slightly downhill,
up and over a hog's back,
the line about six inches outside
the left edge of the cup.

As soon as the ball came off the putter
I knew that it had a chance
and my playing partners
leaning on their putters
suddenly straightened up.

On the strand the Phoenician captain,
with Io, the daughter of King Inachos,
slung over his shoulder, paused
to watch the unfolding event.

I held my breath
as the ball slowed over the hump
and then on the downslope
picked up speed.

I saw that the line was good
and the speed was good.
My heart picked up a beat
as the ball approached the hole
and then began to die and die and
you know, dropped, kerplunk,
and oh my, that sweet sound.

Jim Read has published stories and poems in various literary venues, including the *Spadina Literary Review*, *Crab Apple Literary*, and the *Denver Quarterly*. His novel *The Mollybush Nude* was published by Unsolicited Press in November 2018.

Sonnet with a Tee

Sheila Burpee Duncan

The view from here's a fair way off it's true
But green and silken is the chosen way
Regard with all due thought what one must do
Prepare to meet the foe that one must slay

While left brain measures meters and wind speed
He is of course a member of the club
Old righty cracks his knuckles till they bleed
That brute force boor cares not of social snub

And jackpine jutting like a sawtooth blade
Can cut the flight path off in its mid stream
The moon of day now by inertia stayed
Drops into bed so rough, stuff of bad dream

Bring brain and body to the game and still
Know golf shall claim you victim of its will

Sheila Burpee Duncan's screenplay "Hole in the Ocean" (about a loss-shocked widower who heads out to sea in a sailboat) was a second rounder in the Austin Film Festival script competition. Her short story "Arbor Marie" placed top three in the Penguin Random House Canada Student Award for Fiction. Her stories have also been published in *Blank Spaces*, *Agnes*, and *True*.