

### Food for thought

By Aileen McPherson

Kindness of the Heart.  
 Early morning still quiet,  
 Coffee brews, cat mews, birds sing,  
 while pans ring.  
 Eggs crack, sizzle, snap, bacon fries,  
 biscuits rise, as sounds and smells  
 make the dead arise.  
 Table set, jams and jellies, butter,  
 sugar, and cream.  
 Good morning, family  
 Did you have  
 sweet dreams?

### The Necklace

by Avendor

I wear a necklace of fear  
 sometimes I forget that it's there  
 when I am happy and so unaware  
 of the madness I've known all these years  
 And sometimes I feel pressing down upon me  
 when I am having a pleasant conversation  
 and I can dismiss it with the wave of the hand  
 watch it go from a tidal wave to a puddle  
 Or I can contemplate it all  
 so I can't hear a damn word you say  
 and ponder doing something totally unexpected  
 that could horrify us both for god knows how long  
 You know I have so many lovely desires  
 a girl to love, a world to save, that is that  
 but how can I rightly do this  
 with this curse around my neck

### Untitled

By Jaison Kirk

Seagulls like kites on the wind pursued by darker birds  
 Crows swooping in, harassing them like the gulls, so are my words.  
 Harassed, heresy, heretic  
 Unsound, insane, lunatic.  
 I imagine things they say  
 Conversations with figments unseen.