**Benediction for a Beach Dweller**

May waves break in tildes of sunlight at your feet, may cedar dance its green scarves around you

May a polished beach pebble banish your worries and a driftwood staff steady your walk

May the sun glint off your chimney cap and the wind twirl it like a top

May sandpipers rise like ashes from your beach fire and the tides beat inside you like a drum

May the crow cawing from the top of the crooked pine make you set aside suffering

May the tiny pink bells of huckleberry and salal ring Easter tidings throughout your town

May rain never keep you in your solitary cell, may you spring forth from your door like a doe

May a tangerine sunset ignite your window forever and evermore

Phyllis Mannan