

On the Empire Builder During Spring Floods

By Maryann Hurtt

*The Portland to Chicago passenger train passes
over and by the Mississippi River on its way
through Wisconsin.*

the Mississippi licks
the train tracks
you wonder about young bass
believe some must get an itch
to hop on
a way to see beyond
their watery world
fins might make it difficult
to leap on
but there's always a gutsy one
who goes for broke
believes the grass really is
greener on the other side and
if not, oh my
the stories she will tell