

## Essence

While seeking the breeze  
On a hot summer day  
An urge led me to a canopy of trees  
Where I painted the scene  
And felt wondrously eased

It was as if I belonged in that air  
The cottage before me  
On a slope cool and fair  
Was a grassy introduction  
To the kitchen garden just there

The garden fence shone  
In the heat of the sun  
While above me a song  
From swaying tree branches  
Engendered a feeling of oneness so strong

Before me the cottage in paints took form  
Trees in the background too  
Plants in the garden, tall ears of corn  
Misty ferns and sunny dill  
With these the fence was adorned

Folks were busy around me  
An old friend painted close by  
And near me a new friend to be  
On that day in the shade of the cool slope  
My heart and mind were free

Trees, shade, gardens, and green  
Breezes, sun, people, the home  
Infused with such energy all in that scene  
That my spirit in appreciation  
Sang out the essence of being

By Barbara in Atlantic, July 16, 2017