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Jane Barrett Ross

### Relentless

I hoped to lie late in bed  
watching the sun widen my  
bedroom walls.  
I would read late each night  
lining through titles  
from my list grown twenty years long.  
Films too,  
those I missed  
when a child was sick  
or the star of the latest school event.  
I was going to coast  
a pleasant glide

to the bottom of the hill  
I conquered so glibly.  
But I can't stop my quivering mind.  
Words continue,  
golden words.  
Phrases crack through  
and jump into my eyes  
relentless need for completion.

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Jane Barrett Ross is a graduate of Purdue University with a degree in creative writing. Her poems have also appeared in *Poem* and *Lyric*.