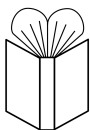


# Well on Your Way

*an assistant professor's companion*

Elizabeth Odders-White



**nodramaturg** publishing

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**nodramaturg**

## Stretch

Raft in water  
I float gently  
gracefully even.

Effortless  
flow.

Downriver  
spear-like branches  
a tangle of chaos  
terror.

I scramble for shore  
raft torn  
deflated.  
Spirit torn  
deflated  
too.

Yet I knew this might come.

Backpack guards  
a small rubber patch  
sticky  
strong.

Soon I float gently  
gracefully even.

Well on Your Way

Effortless  
flow.

Downriver  
piercing rocks  
a minefield of chaos  
terror.

I scramble for shore  
raft blown  
to bits.

Spirit blown  
to bits  
too.

Still I knew this might come.

Backpack shields  
neatly folded raft  
sturdy  
strong.

Soon I float gently  
gracefully even.

Effortless  
flow.

Downriver  
a whirlpool  
maelstrom of chaos  
terror.

I cough  
sputter  
raft devoured  
by the force.  
Spirit devoured  
by the force  
too.

I search for dry ground  
desperate  
grasping  
to no avail.

No raft.

No backpack.

No knowing what might come.

No choice  
but to give  
a beaten body  
soul  
over  
to icy water.

Shavasana  
(corpse pose).

Soon  
the current  
shifts.

Well on Your Way

I float gently  
gracefully even.

Limbs outstretched  
fully free.

Effortless  
flow.

