

The Coffee Ceremony

By Anne Hay

Spoon beans from the jar
designed like an owl's face.
Grind to powder.
The kettle bubbles. Hear
its hum fade to stillness
like a meditation bell.
On the draining board, light.
Through the pane, water droplets
on the broom. Lilac buds.
Tip grains from grinder
to cafetiere. Inhale the scent.
A little water. Let it bloom.
Pause thirty seconds.
Fill to the line.
Steep four minutes.
Mix with the special spoon.
Press the plunger down.

The first sip.