



Woodbury, Connecticut

[sandycarlson.net](http://sandycarlson.net)

[imsandycarlson@gmail.com](mailto:imsandycarlson@gmail.com)

## sandy lee carlson

When You See the Bear

When you see the bear  
And the bear sees you,  
In that heart-stopping  
Moment

When eyes lock and say,  
"Here I am, not you,"  
Know that is the rare  
Moment  
That you see the bear.

It is not a rare  
Moment  
For the bear, however.  
She sees you all the time.  
So, for that matter, do  
The doe, the fawn, the fox,  
The turkey, and the hawk,  
The chipmunk, the box turtle.

When you find your way  
Under the amber-lit  
Canopy  
Of their shaded world,  
They see you.  
They know your every step,  
Your smell, your muttering  
Through cobwebs that don't  
Much want you, either.

You're not a mystery.  
Your relationship is not mutual.  
They know you, fearful one,  
And they are not afraid,  
As you walk unaware  
That they let you by,  
Part of the pattern.