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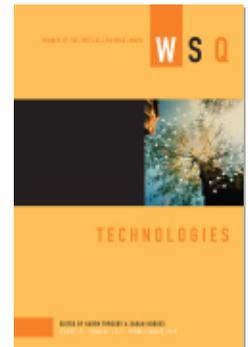
Spyware Advice

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SPYWARE ADVICE

CATHY McARTHUR

Beware of current privacy threats.
Run a full scan to detect
if you are temporarily disabled.

Don't suppress these alerts.
Create a block list;
only enter sites you know and trust.

I created "Spyware Advice" by using Google and then mixing advertisements and articles containing anti-spyware information. While writing a series of poems about vision and eyeglasses, I brainstormed some words. I thought of the glasses my son played with as a child which allowed him to see a small space behind him: "spyglasses." Then "spyware" became another consideration. Words emerged as did subjects for poems. Since "spyware" is associated with computers, the Internet was an appropriate place to go. I selected phrases from random places. The first line, "Beware of current privacy threats," was a statement which prompted me to continue to write more, to look for more words.

I have a fascination for the imperative and the instructional voice, and often read advertisements on the Internet when I want to write.

CATHY McARTHUR (aka Cathy Palermo) has poetry forthcoming in *Gargoyle* and *Hanging Loose*. Her work has appeared in *Lumina*, *Jacket*, *Ozone Park*, *Promethean*, *The Memphis State Review* and *Xconnect Writers of the Information Age*. Her poetry received awards at the CUNYArtsGala in 2004, 2005, and 2006. In 2006 she received an MFA in poetry from the City College of New York and was awarded the Malanche Prize for her translations of contemporary Latin American poetry. She currently teaches literature and English composition at the City College of New York. Cathy is program coordinator for the Readings on the Bowery, sponsored by Four Way Books.

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