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## DENI ANN GEREIGHTY

### Moon

The radiant full moon startles me tonight.  
 Her shocking brilliance peeks through the evergreens  
 nearly lands my car in a ditch.  
 This huge, golden-white orb, luxuriant in her maturity  
 grows from nothing to enormous size  
 takes all her space without apology or embarrassment  
 unlike me for most of my life.

My grandmother loved to tell the story of the night I was born.  
 The nurse delivered me during an eclipse of the full harvest  
 moon,  
 which the doctor was outside watching.  
 Tonight's moon reminds me of how I have lived eclipsed  
 bound by my fears and insecurities over my own size  
 drawn to my size-positive sisters  
 I hesitantly plunge into the glow of self-acceptance.  
 Substantial, complete within myself, commanding attention  
 I am growing into my fullest self.  
 Bountiful, taking ample space, I have learned,  
 I am beautiful as the moon.

*I am disabled. I miss being a L&D RN, but helped with my sister's labor. I am blessed with young three nieces. I have two feline companions, Zoe and Nikki. I rescued them as kittens after surviving my 12.5 hour cancer surgery. They have watched over me as guardians through five years of MRSA infections and surgeries, while I healed, and now keep me going and loved.*