

Sonnet Scroll

Baby-led weaning at 18 months

By Nancy Heiss

Young crows stay near their nest for several years
unrushed to make their independence known.
So, too, my youngest daughter perseveres
in climbing into bed with me. I groan
but help her settle in, adjust her latch,
and let her nurse to sleep, not knowing whether
this will be her last, or whether she'll ask
for more milk in the morning. I breathe her
sweaty scent in and drift off until she,
exhausted of the night, declares it day.
We listen as the birdsong symphony
is dominated by cawing crows. They
shout out secrets to our open window;
we snuggle close, pleased to know what crows know.