

Cuyahoga
County
**Public
Library**

By Cora McCann Liderbach

ODE TO LAKEWOOD, OHIO

Give me your fern-laden porches, your
narrow yards and buckling sidewalks.
Your diner waitstaff's rainbow hair
and piercings. The vegan bakeries, crystal
shops and witch boutiques on Madison.
The same-sex couples strolling your
sidewalks. Each night, worshippers
on your Solstice Steps watch Lake Erie
swallow the sun like a sacrament. Now,
a head-scarved woman trains her camera
on a bouncing boy in her husband's lap,
crying *Bobo! Bobo!* As the sun melts
into the horizon, I salute your babel
of languages, your yearning to breathe free.