

his locked throat finds a little door

and through it feathered joy
flies screaming like a jay

P. K. Page, "Deaf-Mute in the Pear Tree" from *The Glass Air: Selected Poems*. Copyright © 1985 by P. K. Page. Reprinted with the permission of the author.

Source: *The Glass Air: Selected Poems* (Oxford University Press, 1985)



Patricia Kathleen Page was born in England and moved to Alberta, Canada at the age of four. She was educated in Winnipeg and Calgary, and also studied art in New York and Brazil. A novelist and short story writer, Page has also written an autobiography, several works for children, and painted under the name P.K. Irwin. Her work is often praised for its wit, wisdom, moral sensibility, and passionate yet objective viewpoint of human nature and relationships. In the poem "Deaf Mute in the Pear Tree," for example, Page uses vivid nature imagery to show a loving relationship between a husband and wife.