

CAPE COD by Ilona Martonfi

...beside the Paupers Cemetery,
Hyannis South Side Road....

Front page *Cape Cod Times*:
Villa Vecchione Restaurant burns.
A one-story wooden building
...was most recently vacant.

Where the tide goes out for miles:
A strip of beach. A strip of sea.
Blue sky and a bluff.
Wildness without trees.

A watercolour painting:

Red seaweed algae.

Gable-roof, shingled grey cottages.
Dunes are home to wild rose.
Cranberry fields. Squawking seagulls.

Do you remember the Holiday Inn:
“Kids sleep free.”

Dining at Villa Vecchione:
Shrimp with lemon. Langoustines.
Glass of white house wine.

Heavy rain on a summer night.
...the Paupers Cemetery,
Hyannis South Side Road....
oldest tombstone:
Joseph Linnel,
aged 4 years, died year 1741.

Where herons stand in a salt pond.
Orange mud snails live in rockweed.

: Ocean tides.
I ask myself why?
the fire, the graveyard,
the scouring sand?

Purple bruises.

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Author Bio: Ilona Martonfi *Blue Poppy*, a first book of poems, published with Coracle Press (2009). Coracle chapbook, *Visiting the Ridge* (2004). Poems have appeared in *Vallum*, *Accenti*, *The Fiddlehead*, *Serai*. Poet, editor, teacher. Founder, producer/host of *The Yellow Door* and *Visual Arts Centre Poetry and Prose Readings*. QWF 2010 Community Award.