Peggy Shumaker

Star Gazers

Arctic terns wheel,
trail sharp tails
over leggy rockets
of Eskimo potato. Faded
trumpets cascade.

Mountainsides, meadows of fireweed,
the whole burn healing pink.
In each blossom
four creamy curls
come full circle.

Yellow warbler,
flitting astronomer of July’s
galaxies. Milky way–
tiny stars spiral
bedstraw’s sweet square stems.

Astronomer of grass
of Parnassus,
bog star gathers
green hearts at the root–
stems go nova.