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## A House of Readers

Jim W. Miller

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# A House of Readers

At 9:42 on this May morning  
The children's rooms are concentrating too.  
Like a tendril growing toward the sun, Ruth  
moves her book into a wedge of light  
that settles on the floor like a butterfly.  
She turns a page.  
Fred is immersed in magic, cool  
as a Black Angus belly-deep in a farm pond.

The only sound: pages turning softly.  
This is the quietness  
of bottomland where you can hear only the young corn  
growing, where a little breeze stirs the blades  
and then breathes in again.

I mark my place.  
I listen like a farmer in the rows.

--*Jim Wayne Miller*

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