

## In the Forest

It is true. They are . . . giants:  
General Sherman,  
General Lee,  
President's Tree,  
Chief Sequoia.

But it just isn't happening for me  
until I walk past the Senate Group  
leave the paved pathways behind,  
all the families posing for photos.

I won't meet another soul now  
for the next couple of miles  
of meandering trails (until  
I approach Tharps Log)  
except for the parents  
with their daughter eating  
lunch on a fallen tree. We  
exchange thoughts about being  
so far away from the crowds.

It's almost time for my lunch too,  
so I hike a little further, select  
a rock overlooking circle meadow,  
where I contemplate the colors  
of wildflowers, why I feel so at home  
here, in that part of the forest where  
the ancient trees have no names  
(just like most of the poets I know)  
and will, therefore,  
be remembered more fondly.

Steve Bloom  
August 2006