

## A few words about "Remaking the Shadowbox"

Once I realized I was writing a rant poem, I gave myself full permission to inhabit the persona of a wronged woman. It wasn't hard to do!

What remains interesting to me is that I had to step outside the poem for a few months in order to see what the scaffolding wanted to become. Also, I had had trouble finding the right title (this was originally called "Palaver") but when I did, "Remaking the Shadowbox" worked a kind of magic as I could revise again with a sense that this piece focused on a complex event from thirty years ago. "Remaking the Shadowbox" is now an integral poem in my upcoming collection, *A Spy in the Afterlife*. That sense of returning to the scene of the crime as a kind of secret agent from the future came to me with this poem and helped me finish the book!