

## sigriðarstigur

“Sigriður’s path”  
honouring Sigriður Tómasdóttir  
1871-1957

like so many others  
I’m walking your path  
though most bypass  
the memorial stone  
never learning  
your name  
yet they see the  
wonder of nature  
you loved and fought for  
all your life

this then is your legacy  
in the place  
to which  
you guided visitors  
as a child  
Gullfoss still flows free  
and people throng  
to view and admire it

a natural leader of many  
head of your siblings  
though you weren’t the eldest  
the daughter who stood  
with her father  
through many years  
of litigation

you vowed Gullfoss  
would be forever  
unharnessed  
untouched  
by human hands  
free to flow  
as nature intended  
never subjected  
to money-making schemes

you traversed mountain passes  
on horseback  
wading through rivers  
to meet officials  
who knew nothing  
of your farming life

yet there was more to you  
than the sheep farmer’s daughter  
an accomplished artist  
skilled botanist  
and needlewoman

a determined campaigner  
whose reputation spread  
countrywide

others learned to value  
the wonders of nature  
on their doorstep  
to see them for what they are  
rather than what  
men with money  
might have them become

thanks to you  
Gullfoss remains  
forever free  
to be as it was  
meant to be

on sigriðarstigur  
I wonder at my legacy  
such as it is  
I’ve been a leader of people  
driven by my values  
remaining true  
to who I’m meant to be

I hope I inspired those  
whose lives I’ve touched  
to stay steadfast and strong  
true to themselves and others  
empowered like Gullfoss  
to forever flow  
wild and free