REMEMBERING "ELLERY STREET"

When I first knew David Ferry he was in a dry spell as a poet, after his

wonderful first book On the Way to the Island. No one, not even David himself,

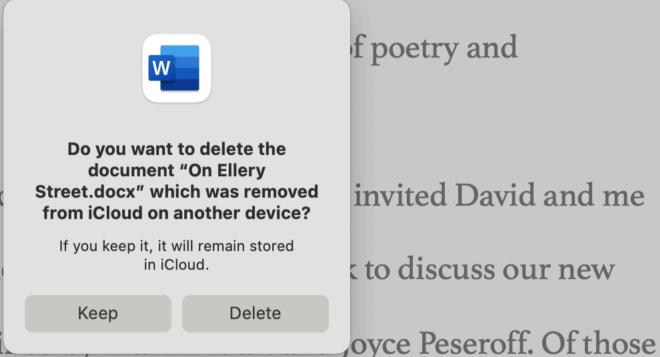
could have anticipated the great,

translation that was to come.

In 1970 the poet Barry Space

to help form a group of poets wh

work. David, Barry and I were joi.



five, only Barry and David had published books.

At one of our first meetings David presented a new poem with a melodic nature that I keep learning from decades later, a compact lyric of just 148 words,

title and all: "Ellery Street." As I remember, we all sort of gasped.

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