

# Appalachia

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Volume 70  
Number 1 *Winter/Spring 2019: Quests That  
Wouldn't Let Go*

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Article 21

2019

## In Cedar Woods

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### Recommended Citation

Mullen, Kay (2019) "In Cedar Woods," *Appalachia*: Vol. 70: No. 1, Article 21.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.dartmouth.edu/appalachia/vol70/iss1/21>

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### **In Cedar Woods**

From the trail bridge,  
the heron stalks amid  
cattail strips, the eye all that alters.  
Feathers shimmer  
in the stream's reflection. Now and then  
the bird lifts its talons as it  
paces forward, quiet, the eye quick  
to catch a tremor of flow  
beneath the surface.  
Then out of silence —  
the stabbing sound. The heron feeds  
as one who hungers  
for what surrounds the moment,  
aquatic insects and rodents,  
perch and sculpin when they appear  
to embrace the full scene,  
to grasp patience and proclivity,  
to know nothing in the presence  
of mystery, the heron, the waterway,  
the giant in a hiatus of wonder.

*Kay Mullen*

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KAY MULLEN'S work has appeared in various poetry journals: *Floating Bridge Review*, *American Life in Poetry*, *Cross Winds Poetry Review*, and others. She earned an MFA from Pacific Lutheran University and has been a multiple Pushcart nominee and Best of the Net nominee. She currently lives and teaches in Tacoma, Washington.