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Quechee Gorge

Francis Blessington

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Quechee Gorge

Nebulas rise at me,
rain washes down.

The ice thrust routed
this downward channel.

“DANGER”: Water rises fast,
when dam lets loose.

A funnel to Hades.
Down is easy?

Those ghosting crags
shall outlast me.

Their glacial trickle
is still a torrent.

Behind me
the trail erodes.

Ahead, crescendoing rock
and more missteps.

Sky shrinks
to a sword of cloud.

Stone embraces me.
Valley of the Shadow.

Here, at the bottom,
trout are hauled out.

Now, gentle voices
are walking down

This time,
I can return.

Francis Blessington

FRANCIS BLESSINGTON's latest book is *Poems from Underground* (Deerbrook Editions, 2017). He teaches English at Northeastern University.

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