

Appalachia

Volume 68
Number 2 *Summer/Fall 2017: Stories from the
Albums*

Article 25

2017

Fox

Wally Swist

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Recommended Citation

Swist, Wally (2017) "Fox," *Appalachia*: Vol. 68 : No. 2 , Article 25.

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Fox

She travels the border on this side
of the windbreak of farm and open meadow and,

between the time I look out the front window,
place my bowl of soup on the table, lift my head again,

moves, releases herself to the wind, springs on
black-furred feet so quick, so deliberate

in the rhythm of graceful bounds, her light red coat,
stretched full length, the white bib of her chest barely

visible in its invisibility. I am left breathless by
the four leaps that take her to an opening among

clumps of leafless honeysuckle where she slips
into dusk, turning silver as she springs, rapturous,

into mind, into body, this everlasting
moment passing as it passes into the miraculous.

Wally Swist

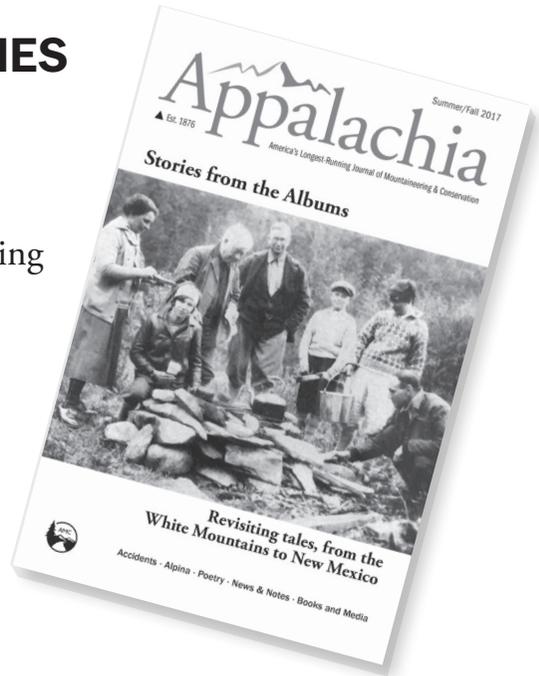
WALLY SWIST'S books include *Huang Po and the Dimensions of Love* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2012); *The Daodejing: A New Interpretation*, with David Breeden and Steven Schroeder (Lamar University Literary Press, 2015); *Invocation* (Lamar University Literary Press, 2015); and *The Windbreak Pine* (Snapshot Press, 2016). His forthcoming books are *The View of the River* (Kelsay Books, 2017), *Candling the Eggs* (Shanti Arts, LLC, 2017), and *Singing for Nothing: Selected Nonfiction as Literary Memoir* (The Operating System, 2018).

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