

Appalachia

Volume 67
Number 2 *Summer/Fall 2016: Living with the
Consequences*

Article 22

2016

Hutchins Island

Grace Mattern

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.dartmouth.edu/appalachia>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Mattern, Grace (2016) "Hutchins Island," *Appalachia*: Vol. 67: No. 2, Article 22.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.dartmouth.edu/appalachia/vol67/iss2/22>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by Dartmouth Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Appalachia by an authorized editor of Dartmouth Digital Commons. For more information, please contact dartmouthdigitalcommons@groups.dartmouth.edu.

Hutchins Island

A buck steps from the pined island,
stops at the edge of tide
receding from a bridge
of rock and sand that will split
the cove in two. He hesitates,
wades chest deep, launches
into his stroke, hooves cycling,
rack pointing for the far shore,
his back an ocean-
parting ridge. Ripples break
against his breast, flow
to his flanks, fan out across the water,
lap pebbled stones and dry threads
of dark seaweed at our feet.

Grace Mattern

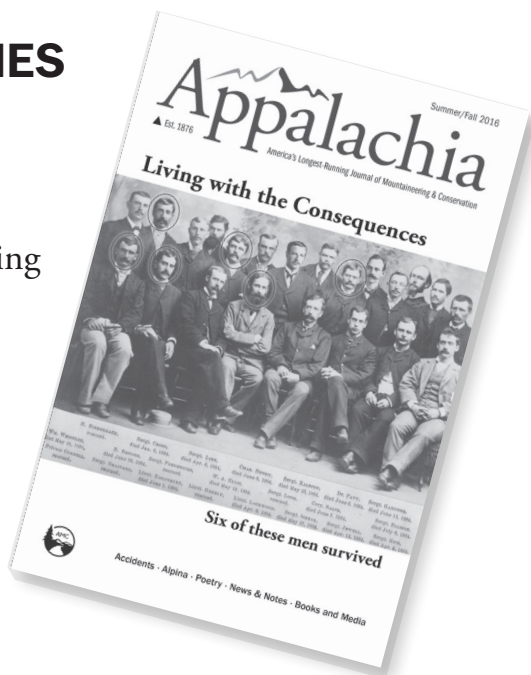
GRACE MATTERN's poetry and prose have been published widely, including in *The Sun*, *Calyx*, *Prairie Schooner*, and *Yankee*. She has received fellowships from the New Hampshire State Arts Council and Vermont Studio Center. Her book *The Truth About Death* (Turning Point Books, 2012) won the New Hampshire Literary Awards' Readers' Choice Award for Outstanding Book of Poetry. She blogs at www.gracemattern.com.

"I started reading Appalachia for the accident reports, but I kept reading for the great features."—Mohamed Ellozy, subscriber

SUPPORT THE STORIES YOU LOVE!

Start or renew your *Appalachia* subscription today, and keep reading America's longest-running journal of mountaineering and conservation.

Visit **outdoors.org/appalachia** for a special offer: 36% off the journal's cover price. That's three years of *Appalachia* (6 issues) for only \$42. Or choose a one-year subscription (2 issues) for \$18—18% off the cover price.



Inside every issue, you'll find:

- inspired writing on mountain exploration, adventurers, ecology, and conservation
- up-to-date news and notes on international expeditions
- analysis of recent Northeastern mountaineering accidents
- book reviews, poetry, and much more

Subscribe today at **outdoors.org/appalachia** or call 800-372-1758.



Subscription prices valid as of September 2021. Prices and offers subject to change without notice. For the most up-to-date info, visit outdoors.org.