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## 5 P.M. May 2, On the Way to the Wisconsin River

Robin Chapman

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**5 P.M. May 2, on the way  
to the Wisconsin River**

**Dear Ones**—the horizon's  
a wash of dark rain  
left and right of the road  
with a break straight ahead  
and we ask—will the sun  
thread our journey all the way  
to the end, are those rays  
of light proof of small gods  
pointing the way to the hill  
where we plan to camp,  
will the sun still be up  
to guide us as we pitch  
our tent? And will there be  
woodcocks courting to buzz  
us to sleep?

*Robin Chapman*

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ROBIN CHAPMAN is the author of seven poetry books, most recently *The Eelgrass Meadow* (Tebot Bach, 2011). She is the recipient of *Appalachia's* 2010 Poetry Prize. Her poems have appeared recently in *Atlanta Review*, *Dalhousie Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, and *Southern Poetry Review*, among other journals.

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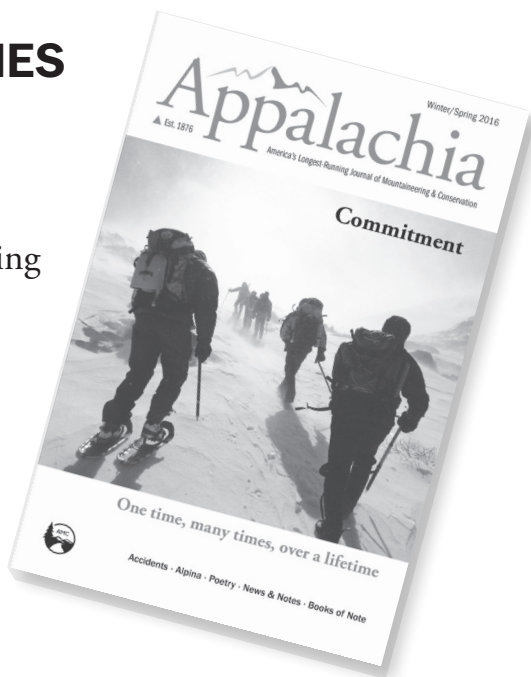
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