

Appalachia

Volume 66
Number 1 *Winter/Spring 2015: No River, No Life*

Article 22

2015

Dreams of Flight

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Recommended Citation

Doyle, James (2015) "Dreams of Flight," *Appalachia*: Vol. 66: No. 1, Article 22.

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Dreams of Flight

Trampling the frozen tundra,
I wait for the shuddering to begin,
that instant of prehistory
when the thousand thousand years
beneath my feet reach
for me, draw me down,
entangle me from one museum
gallery to another, the mammoth's
tusks, a polar bear caught
at the crossroads of evolution,
an ancient hunter flash-frozen
with his stomach contents still
intact, an extinct species
at the precise moment
of catching my scent. Only
the sky to break this earth's
hold. The Arctic colors of the night
slowly coming over me hour
by hour, flight to the exact
center of the *Aurora borealis*
and out the other side, furious
with shooting lights, its net
thrown over schools of stars,
a moving center always there,
always on the verge of twining
the ragged edges around me,
priming past and future in abeyance.

James Doyle

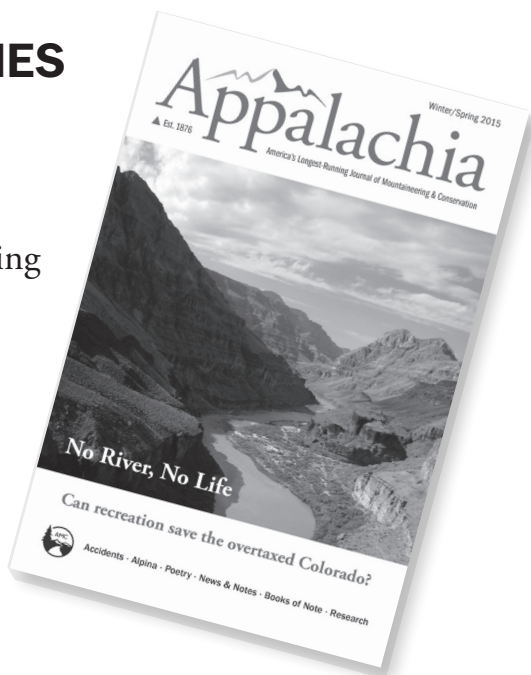
JAMES DOYLE's latest book is *The Long View Just Keeps Treading Water* (Accents Publishing, 2012). He lives in Fort Collins, Colorado.

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