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Blueberry Island

Thoreau Raymond

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Blueberry Island

A smallish mound of earth and rock
left when flood water receded.

Above a cedar waxwing flirts
from branch to branch, then pauses

as though eavesdropping.
Wings crimped like a Japanese fan,

its maw open waiting to feed, be fed?
Sweet pepper bush perfumes the air.

White bells promise fruit to come,
the tang of wild blueberries on our tongues.

Others have been here, docked up
in the sheltering cove, bringing

drunkenness, leaving broken
glass, crumpled cans, young trees

hacked down to fuel some feckless fire.
For now, we bask like milk snakes

storing up heat for the long haul.

Thoreau Raymond

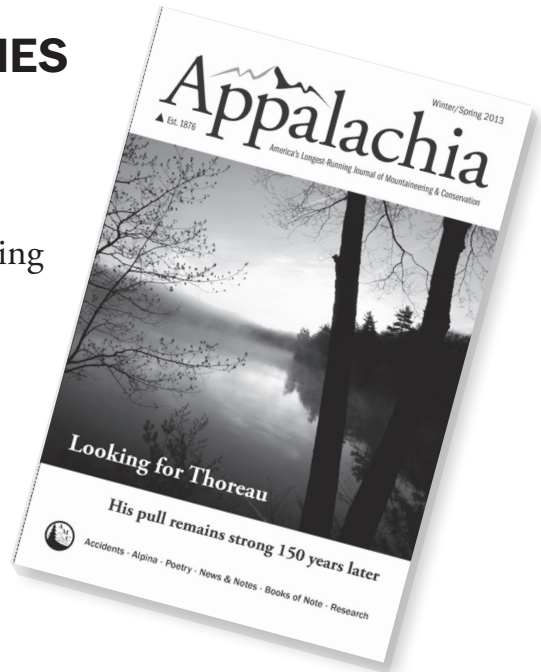
THOREAU RAYMOND is a writer and naturalist. Her poetry has appeared in numerous journals including *Southern Humanities Review*, *Comstock Review*, *The New Guard Literary Review*, and *Shadows and Light: A Literary Anthology on Memory*.

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