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Thoreau Listens for the Warblers

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Thoreau Listens for the Warblers

They move through the trees like wind
or light, and like light or wind

they will not stay. By tomorrow
the songs of these birds will be absent,

and the light will not be yesterday's
but today's. The leaves will not make

a sound, and I will wonder if wind
ever shook this place, if the bright bodies

sang or foraged or filled the canopy
in numbers so dense you might believe

heaven was something to see, to feel
flying fast near your face.

Todd Davis

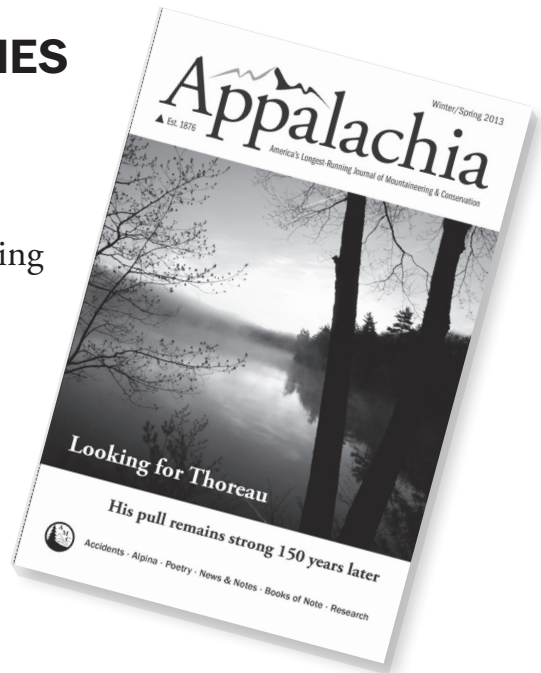
TODD DAVIS teaches creative writing and environmental studies at Penn State University's Altoona College. He is the author of four books of poems, most recently *The Least of These* (Michigan State University Press, 2010) and *Household of Water, Moon, and Snow: The Thoreau Poems* (Seven Kitchens Press, 2010). His fifth book of poems, *In the Kingdom of the Ditch*, will be published by Michigan State University Press in 2013.

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