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Bowerbird

Francis Blessington

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Bowerbird

Come live with me again:
I've made another nest for you
from blue flowers, of course,
dark berries, white feathery remains,
dried gold grasses, rifle shells
I stole from a bird of paradise lair,
beetle wing and cigar butt,
lifted by a frame of sticks
taller than a man
and better arranged.
This time you shall lie perhaps
with me more
where glorious palm softens
hard acorn and leathery eucalyptus—
all the best New Guinea has to offer.
However you decide,
every year, I must go building,
forsaking our old splatch,
mounting nest after nest after nest
until infinity fails.

Francis Blessington

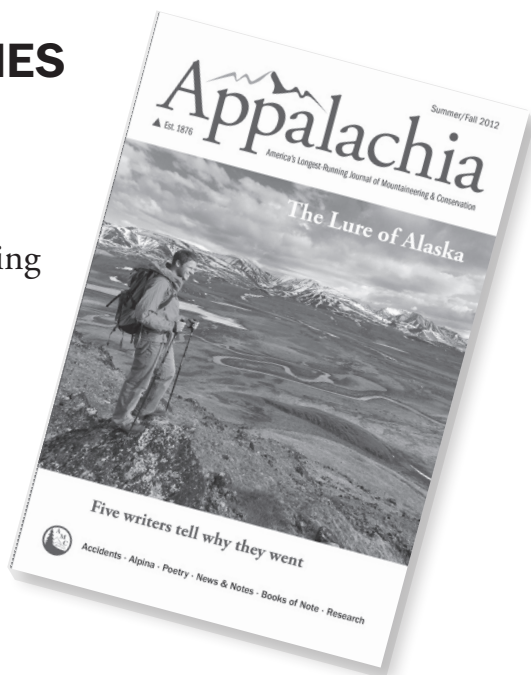
FRANCIS BLESSINGTON's poems have appeared in *Arion*, *Arizona Quarterly*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Harvard Magazine*, *The Sewanee Review*, *Yale Literary Review*, and *Yankee*, among many others.

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