

# Appalachia

---

Volume 73  
Number 2 Summer/Fall 2022: *The Ubiquitous  
Cell Phone*

Article 23

---

2022

## Liturgy of Going to Water

Michael Garrigan

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.dartmouth.edu/appalachia>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Garrigan, Michael (2022) "Liturgy of Going to Water," *Appalachia*: Vol. 73: No. 2, Article 23.  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.dartmouth.edu/appalachia/vol73/iss2/23>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by Dartmouth Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Appalachia by an authorized editor of Dartmouth Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [dartmouthdigitalcommons@groups.dartmouth.edu](mailto:dartmouthdigitalcommons@groups.dartmouth.edu).

---

---

## Liturgy of Going to Water

“Everything relies on everything else in order to manifest.”

—*Thich Nhat Hanh*

*For Todd and Noah Davis*

We hike the owl's crown down to an old burn that runs its way  
into a confluence of muddy currents and knotweed.  
Cast, turn, trace the ravine back to its narrowest point  
flicking Royal Wulffs, studying scat, naming plants,  
fingers reach riverbed through speckled sediment shadows,  
an interbeing of brook trout and body manifesting  
landscape lineages of what we seek, marbled watersheds  
emptying and returning, always, to another river.

*Michael Garrigan*

---

---

MICHAEL GARRIGAN writes and teaches along the banks of the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania and strongly believes that every watershed should have a poet laureate. He is the author of two poetry collections, *Robbing the Pillars* (Homebound Publications, 2020) and the chapbook *What I Know [How to Do]* (Finishing Line Press, 2019). His writing has appeared in *Orion Magazine*, *River Teeth*, and *The Hopper Magazine*. He was the 2021 Artist in Residence for The Bob Marshall Wilderness Area.

---

---

*"I started reading Appalachia for the accident reports, but I kept reading for the great features."*—Mohamed Ellozy, subscriber

---

---

## SUPPORT THE STORIES YOU LOVE!

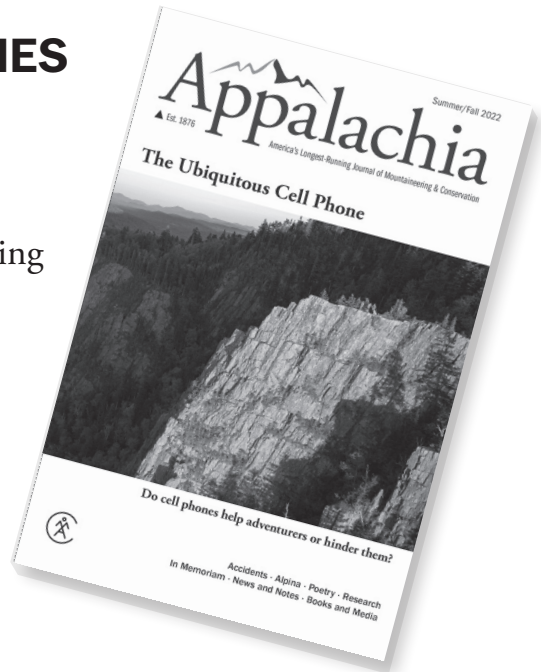
Start or renew your *Appalachia* subscription today, and keep reading America's longest-running journal of mountaineering and conservation.

Visit [outdoors.org/appalachia](https://www.outdoors.org/appalachia) for a special offer: 36% off the journal's cover price. That's three years of *Appalachia* (6 issues) for only \$42. Or choose a one-year subscription (2 issues) for \$18—18% off the cover price.

Inside every issue, you'll find:

- inspired writing on mountain exploration, adventurers, ecology, and conservation
- up-to-date news and notes on international expeditions
- analysis of recent Northeastern mountaineering accidents
- book reviews, poetry, and much more

Subscribe today at [outdoors.org/appalachia](https://www.outdoors.org/appalachia) or call 800-372-1758.



Subscription prices valid as of June 2022. Prices and offers subject to change without notice. For the most up-to-date information, visit [outdoors.org](https://www.outdoors.org).