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Kintsugi Trail

Polly Brown

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Kintsugi Trail

Yesterday, in deep cracks
through old layers of tar,
snow still unmelted there
shone: each tiny canyon
crossing our dark path
brimful with light.

Today we bend and peer
into emptiness. Overnight,
those last snow lines
sublimed into dry
cold air. But
while they remained

we felt our way
healed as if by kintsugi—
veins of tree sap lacquer
dusted with gold,
to mend a pot,
deepen history.

Like rivers, like the age
on a loved face,
lift up, the snow
lines said—*lift up*
this crumbling path.
This broken time.

Polly Brown

POLLY BROWN, author of *Pebble Leaf Feather Knife* (Cherry Grove Collections, 2019), has resettled a family place uphill from the Sandy River in western Maine. Other recent poems have appeared at quartetjournal.com and canarylitmag.org, and in the *Atlanta Review* and *Naugatuck River Review*.

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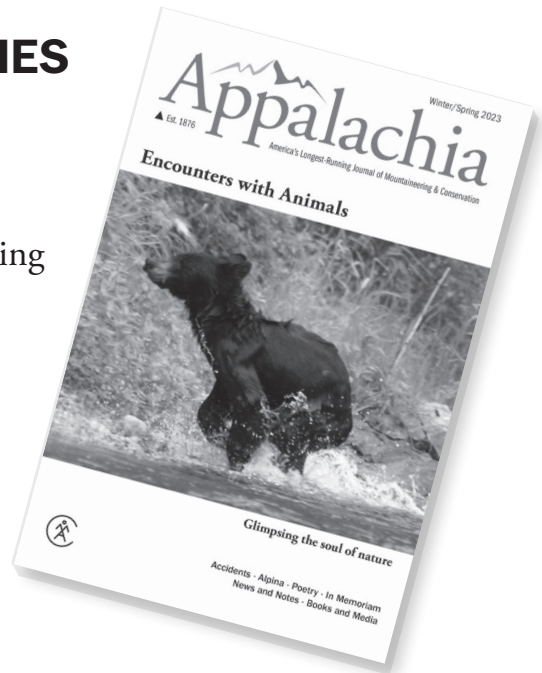
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