



OCT 2019

APPEAL TO BLUE JAY WITH ZIP TIE

Rachael Petersen

I keep mistaking trash for breathing things.
Each deception breaks my heart.
White bags drift like pigeons.
Styrofoam playacts as speckled crab.
Who litigates the line between dead and alive anymore?
Certainly not you —
a translucent twig in your beak,
ready to weave life of refuse,
as if the difference made no difference.
Oh, teach me to reclaim what I must to survive.

Photo: "Survival" by Charles Park



OCT 2019

SAM COOKE

David Lawton

Like a river running ever
Across the stormy tide
Life has been a thing that's too hard
Coming takes a long, long time

Where you sent me
With the angels singing
I want to dwell in that estate
Though don't know how far I have to go

But I know you, you, you...

Art: "Ndagarden" by PlantaRaieVilar

Rachael Petersen is a writer and researcher in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Her writing explores how humans can create meaningful experiences of belonging in a culture that conspires to separate us from ourselves, each other, and the natural world. Her creative writing has been featured in *The Rumpus*, *The Outline*, *Ruminate*, *Pinkley Press*, and *Wherever Magazine*.

Born in Los Angeles, California, **Charles Park's** work focuses on compositions within urban and outside environments. Park's interventions with reclaimed materials within the landscapes help unveil depth introspectively while also exposing the innate characteristic of human survival. He currently holds an MFA degree in Photography from Parsons the New School for Art and Design. His work has been exhibited in New York and internationally.

David Lawton is the author of the poetry collection *Sharp Blue Stream* (Three Rooms Press), and serves as an editor for *greatweatherforMEDIA*. He has work featured currently in *Voices From the Fierce Intangible World* and *Maintenant*, and forthcoming in *POST(blank)*, *South Florida Poetry Journal* and *The Spirit, it Travels*. David also collaborates with poet Aimee Herman in the poemusic collective *Hydrogen Junkbox*.

As a native of Philadelphia working in Baltimore and New York City, **PlantaRaieVilar** has exhibited extensively as a painter, mixed media artist and performer. Her featured entry, “*Ndagarden*,” from her *Disclosure/Concealment* series, explores the visceral and analytical impact of narrative and aesthetic forms. Images are provoked by identity, role play, colloquial expression along with the aesthetic influences of popular culture and social media.