



**SEPT 2019**

# **HIS WHEAT DREAM**

*Merridawn Duckler*

He wants a patch of wheat  
instead of a bluegrass lawn.  
Not for grain or profit,  
but to see the shape of the wind  
as it pushes through sunny tassels,  
blowing gold into silver.

*Photography: "Coyote Pass" by James Bedell*



**SEPT 2019**

# **DEEP IMPACT**

*Oz Hardwick*

The probe is soft as it slides through darkness, darkness without depth, depth without depth, because depth needs form, needs limits. Inside, there may be one living being, may be millions: without scale, it is impossible to gauge dimension, to estimate its cargo. But there is life. Circuits hum, engines pulse a complex destiny, forgetful of the world in which it was set in motion. But the probe dreams, dreams of a sky that is anything but dark.

*Art: "Strange Blue Lights" by Sean Johnson*

**Sara Backer** likes brevity, gravity, and levity. She holds an MFA in Poetry from Vermont College of Fine Arts, lives in New Hampshire, and teaches at UMass Lowell. She has two chapbooks: *Scavenger Hunt* and *Bicycle Lotus*. Recent publications include *Qu*, *Nonbinary Review*, *The Pedestal*, and *Hawaii Pacific Review*. Her first book of poetry, *Such Luck*, is out now from Flowstone Press. Website: [sarabacker.com](http://sarabacker.com).

**James Bedell** is a process support coordinator by day, and a photographer by night. He is an avid lover of nature and people. He lives in Fayetteville, Arkansas with his wife and sons, and is working toward a degree in environmental science.

**Oz Hardwick** is a poet, photographer & occasional musician, living in the north of England. In recent years he has focused mainly on prose poetry, and his latest collection, 'The Lithium Codex,' was published by Hedgehog in July this year. In the same month, 'The Valley Press Anthology of Prose Poetry,' which Oz has co-edited with Anne Caldwell, was published, showcasing some of the most exciting contemporary work in the form in the UK.

**Sean Johnson** was born in Houston, Texas where she attended University of Houston. There she majored in Education and minored in Art. Though she has always been a writer, her interest in visual arts began in 2014. Since that time she has been a featured painter, exhibition artist, and vendor at Block Market, Black Girl Excellence, Survivor Seminar, Midtown Arts Center, and a host of other events. Sean has had two art exhibitions to date, and her work has been published in The Hunger , Boston Accent Lit, Homology Lit, Les Femmes Folles, and Street Light Press.