

# Studio One

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## Medium

Alison Hicks

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## MEDIUM

A wooden canoe with its varnished ribs, for instance.  
*Where arrre you?* Loon calling across the lake.

Kevlar or epoxy can be beautiful,  
the lack of weight on shoulders.

It is good to make a craft that will carry  
over lakes and rivers.

I should have worked with wood.  
Just that the guys in shop class seemed so dull.

I know a man whose father was a millman.  
He would come home smelling of whatever wood  
he was working with that day.

My friend and his brothers and sisters learned  
the smell of cherry, walnut, pine, oak.

I could carve a spoon so the grain  
would show across the hollow.

I could make a table for you to sit down to,  
that we could converse across.

Maybe the canoe factory in Peterborough  
is taking interns.

There would be no question of what I meant,  
no misinterpretation, embarrassment.  
A spoon, or a canoe.

-Alison Hicks  
Havertown, Pennsylvania