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Cold Mountain Falls

John Grey

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Cold Mountain Falls

In these mountains,
it's like the world before sun,
constant rain,
a withered gray light,
a breeding ground for streams.

Beauty here
depends on our bravery.
a willingness to wear a jacket tight,
wade through sated ferns,
follow a narrow trail
to an endlessly gushing waterfall.

Here, in the cascade's headquarters,
we find a stone
from where we can watch water
lap around us
then take the rocky stairs down.

Cold and damp,
we both feel faintly amphibian.
We hold each other close,
a small discount
off the price for being here

-John Grey
Johnston, RI