

KEVIN MCKELVEY

Trickster's Dawdle

Some seasons,
I putter away
my eternity
as a duck, kingfisher,
bear, or skink.
Some whole summers
I idle beneath
an oak and
behold its slow
reckoning of a ring.

Between Browning Hill
and Frog Pond Ridge
and Terrill Ridge's plateau
of an open hand,
my shack crowns
a downslope
so that I birth
a watershed.

I lie down
on the dirt
to gaze on cumulus
for entire days
as they march
in army order
and parade on
for someone else's roister
in a thunderstorm.

I carouse here
in my own
white on blue revelry.
If I ruminate enough,

the cumulus will halt
and descend
to brim my hollows.



ABOUT KEVIN MCKELVEY

Kevin McKelvey is the author of *Dream Wilderness* (Finishing Line Press 2010), and his work has also appeared in *Artful Dodge*, *Poems & Plays*, and *Midwestern Gothic*. He received an MFA from Southern Illinois University Carbondale and is an associate professor at the University of Indianapolis. He is the faculty advisor for Etchings Press at the university, a board member of Second Story Indy, and an artist in Big Car, an Indianapolis arts collective with an interest in social practice art and creative placemaking. He can be found online at kevinmckelvey.org.

