

ROBIN BOYD

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What Matters

It's the horse that grazes,  
unaware, framed by  
a long green pasture,  
narrowing toward the flank  
of the mountain that changes  
color like water in light.

It's the horse alone  
among the apple trees  
gnarled by age and wind.  
And evenings, the barn light  
framed by the shapeless dark  
where inside warm mash

waits, seasoned with apples.  
It's the sonorous echo  
of her chewing, soft  
as footfalls on the  
barn floor scoured  
smooth by work and time.

It's these things real  
and imagined as I pass her  
twice a day,  
in the paddock  
or the pasture—framed  
by mountain, by sky,

by all in the world  
that goes wrong.  
Her head dips  
ground-ward  
as she nuzzles  
the dark earth.



## ABOUT ROBIN BOYD

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Robin Boyd is the author of *Among the Slow Roots* (Gap Mountain Press 2007). Her poems have appeared in *Whole Terrain*, *Yankee*, *Crab Creek Review*, *Redheaded Stepchild*, and *CALYX Journal*. She earned an MS in environmental education from the Audubon Expedition Institute and Lesley College. She lives in New Hampshire, where she serves as the director of a foundation that works to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities.

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