

## **The Ring of Kerry**

by Alexandra Parthun

I had never preferred the open air.  
My shoes were always too nice for mud,  
and when we ran off that bus,  
I watched only my feet as we climbed  
down the incline of bumpy rocks.  
But the moment that my shoes hit the gray sand,  
I looked up.  
The ocean glittered and the sun's  
sudden glare hit my eyes.  
Smooth black rocks rose around me,  
framed by patches of vibrant grass that blew in the breeze.  
I stood in the center of it all,  
and the earth finally felt big enough.