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Cold Mountain Falls

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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