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Pressed Flowers

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Pressed Flowers

Trollius butter bombs, martagon
lilies, ghost flowers.

Muddy alpine pasture paths framed
by flowers I might drink—
blue gentian and génépi,

viola, which we call pansies,
rising yellow through snowmelt.

And higher, wild rhododendron,
rampion bells, cushion
pink moss campion—

There, in the high meadow, feet
planted, holding my stance, I count
twelve different varieties.

Later, naming the memories
presses them back into my eyes.

The flowers open and speak to me,
clear and close to the heart
where my feet remember the mountain.

Jeffrey A. Summit

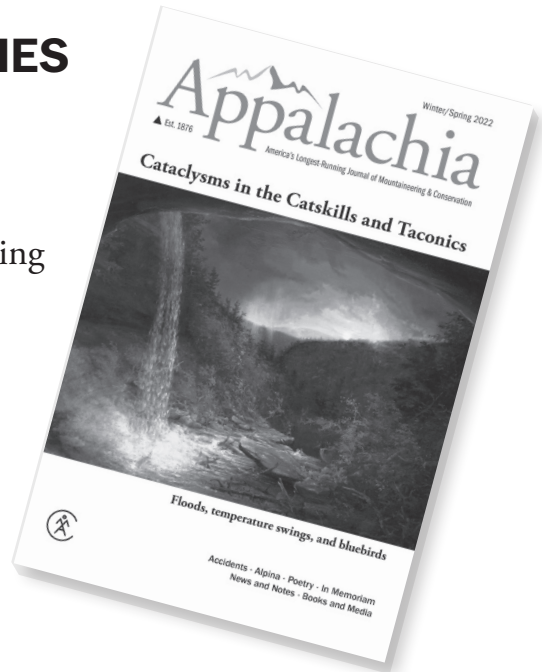
JEFFREY A. SUMMIT, PhD, is a research professor in the music department at Tufts University, where he teaches ethnomusicology. His most recent book is *Singing God's Words: The Performance of Biblical Chant in Contemporary Judaism* (Oxford University Press, 2016). His CD *Abayudaya: Music from the Jewish People of Uganda* (Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, 2003) was nominated for a Grammy award.

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