

# Appalachia

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Volume 64  
Number 2 *Summer/Fall 2013: The Cost of  
Energy*

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Article 25

2013

## Badger

Dave Seter

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### Recommended Citation

Seter, Dave (2013) "Badger," *Appalachia*: Vol. 64: No. 2, Article 25.

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## Badger

Grey-haired, the badger snarls out  
from a nearby rock, while I hike  
down the trail's dead-center, alone.  
I know that feeling, wanting to defend,  
a little too vociferously, my solitude.  
He marks me as an intruder, bares  
his claws, gives no ground  
to an interloper at his doorstep.  
I suppose that's what comes  
from living in holes. I'm no fool.  
I give in, detour, take a tangential  
path down the trail, while the badger  
gives one small snort of disappointment,  
as if expecting better—from a bigger  
foe who walks upright—a fight.

*Dave Seter*

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DAVE SETER's poetry has appeared in various journals and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Born in Chicago, he has lived on both coasts and currently resides in Sonoma County, California. His first collection of poems, the chapbook entitled *Night Duty*, was published in 2010 by Main Street Rag Publishing Company.

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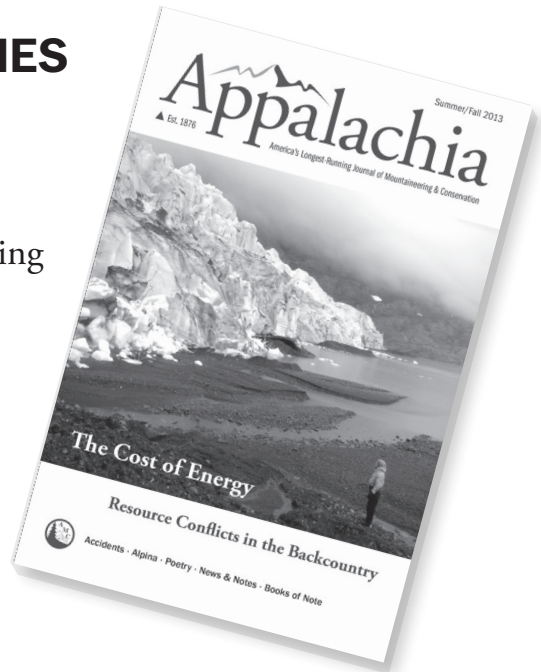
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