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## Transition

It is so quiet I can hear  
the first faint breath  
of the cosmos,  
and the sighs  
of its mother,  
relaxing after birth.  
Stars above me  
as I walk away.  
Sirius barking  
while the dipper pours forth.  
I move companioned by silence  
and balanced between worlds.  
The sound of my steps  
ripples away  
and the tuning fork of morning  
coming alive,  
grows between the air.  
It is the moment of transition,  
the shutter click behind the world,  
when night bows out  
and exits,  
leaving daylight to the stage.  
It is a grain, a fractional wisp,  
a parcel of time so elusive  
that with a thought it is unmade.

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## Walking the River

I walked the river back  
through forest, brush, and time.  
I walked through eons,  
passed the relics and scribbled residue  
of all that went before.  
Eternity flowed beneath my feet  
and I walked the river back.  
I walked past the birth of suns  
and watched them fade to ash.  
Galaxies formed,  
heaved across the void to extinction  
and still I walked the river back.  
Each step evolved like an embryo,  
as my needless mesh and lattice work  
dissolved into essentials.  
I walked back until born from within  
and the river led me home.

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**Greg Smith's** poetry has appeared in *The Antigonish Review* and *Umbrella*. He was also awarded the first annual Quinte Arts Council poetry prize. Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Smith received a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology from Dalhousie University. After fourteen years of living in Toronto, Greg and his wife relocated to the small city of Belleville, Ontario, where he currently earns his living providing personal training and physical rehabilitation services.