

John Flynn

*Class Envy On Constitution Road*

So much of freedom means to seek  
ways to accept what you cannot have.  
Fifty miles of fence, split rail, stained white  
snakes up slopes along windbreaks  
to disappear into tree lines hazy green-gold,  
to reduce the sprawl of this mountainside estate,  
make it a pen for beasts of burden and ribbon show.  
I could spend days here hidden behind my sunglasses,  
court ways to describe the cleverness of light,  
the roseate essence in cedar bark  
where they've been planted equidistantly  
on both sides of an entry road.  
The way wind alters the fumes of cut grasses.  
The tumble of stones lodged pell-mell  
into pastures as if placed one by one.  
They blend a look roughshod and yet rehearsed—  
this parcel of heavenly domestication  
its white manse seen through a cleft  
in a high furry green-gray ridge  
each window saying no, no, no  
not mine to covet.

# FRESHWATER

## 2013

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*FRESHWATER* is published yearly by  
Asnuntuck Community College, 170 Elm Street, Enfield, CT 06082.  
<http://www.asnuntuck.edu/current-students/freshwater>

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ISSN # 1521-0286

Single copies \$7.00 including postage and handling

*FRESHWATER'S* fifteenth issue, to be published in May 2014, is open to submissions from August 15, 2013, through December 15, 2013. Send up to five previously unpublished poems and a brief biographical note, with name, address, phone number, and e-mail address on each poem. E-mail submissions must be Word attachments. One submission per poet per submission period. An e-mail address is essential for electronic notification and re-submission of accepted work. By mail, include stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope. Poems will not be returned.

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