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Nightwood

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Pat McKeage *Nightwood*

She smokes grass and with her tongue
paints flowers from the inside out.
In her tumble down cedar shake cabin

on the wrong side of the river she makes
hash with short slashing knives for her
dog who will howl by her side and for the

frog who squats in the mud. At night
with a toss of red hair she consumes
fire and small babbling dolls as the moon
nods in approval to the wind rattling

windows on the other side of the river
shaking those who sweat nightmares
between peals of church bells. Soon,
soon, she will ascend to the heights of

the universe and into the depths of
its flower; she will swallow God's penis
and he her vagina and they will shudder,
shudder, until they dissolve into one.