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Cottonmouth

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knelt down and kissed ground,
caressing stubble.
rolled in mud and wormed
down through:
entwining roots — rubbing,
tonguing shoots.
rose up naked, felt
shell-freed,
ran, and wrapped my legs.
around a tree.

Lowell Rieger

COTTONMOUTH

Swamp swimmer, weed
glider, toad eater, shadow
diver, your swamp swims
through my brain like gray
day whisky. Crawl out; hang
draped in your favorite
branches: psyche needs to
be shed, sun-dried,
before worn again.

Lowell Rieger