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Stream & Tree

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STREAM AND TREE

JAMES HEARST

The stream's promise
of an easy bed could lull
a troubled man to sleep.
No dismay would alarm
the pasture nearby,
horses would still graze,
jays screech from a dying elm,
grasshoppers snap into
But the young oak I lean against
the depth of afternoon,
blue-bottle flies attend
a dead rabbit.
grips earth firmly, reaches
toward the sun, grows into its future.
It makes my thoughts root deep
as I nod to the horses,
whistle at the blue-jays,
drink from the stream and try
to think enough green signs
so I can go it alone.
