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Editorial

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Editorial

about everything.”

Tim held his father’s hand and walked toward the hay bale bench, feeling queasy. Only when he was swept up in the bustle of departure did he begin to feel safe from the maze. His mother shook out his jacket and attacked him with wet-nap, and his father bounced Ginger on his knee and sang her an impromptu tune about sticky children. Although he felt an urgent need to talk about something, anything, the experience of the maze began to feel hazy, like it had happened to somebody else long ago.

Tim’s father scooped up Ginger, and she nestled her head on his shoulder, chewing on the collar of his brown jacket. His sleeve and her plaid dress

were stained with the vivid red of a candy apple. When his mother knelt down to wrestle Tim back into his coat, Ginger snatched her red hairband and tried putting it on.

Tim’s mother straightened his jacket, patted his pockets, and withdrew the tarnished copper whistle. “What’s this, Timothy?” she asked. Tim considered the whistle and turned toward the spot where Mr. McCorkindale was waiting.

Smiling slyly, the old farmer rubbed his beardless chin with one hand and waved with the other. “Y’all come back next year!” he called, and vanished into the corn. The wind kicked up again, rousing the rows of willowy stalks, and the sun beat down on Tim Little, high in the noonday autumn sky.

Editorial: This Issue

In this issue, we welcome some new writers with a variety of tastes and techniques. In fiction, C. F. Cooper and Kevan Bowkett debut with excerpts from their respective invented mythologies. In poetry, Chelsi Robichaud and Adam Massimiano offer new interpretations of the traditional “Leda” and “Undine” myths, while Kevan Bowkett gives us a different view of Saturn, monarch of the Golden Age. Joseph Murphy also provides three poems exploring the life and vision of a shaman. Among illustrators Raquel Finol offers a striking illustration of Boyer’s poem, “I am a Witch.”

In all categories, we also welcome back some previous authors. In fiction, William Wandless, who published “The Third Mercy” in *MC31* (2009), is back with magic (or is it?) in a contemporary setting. October Williams, whose previous contributions were three poems published *MC32* (2010), is now back with a short story, not without poetic adornment. Ryder Miller, who explored the relationship between modern life and virtual adventures in *MC36* (2014), has moved on to “Laser Cell Phones” and the exploration of Mars. In poetry, Nicolo Santilli, author of “On a Sea Wind,” *MC36* (2014), presents more poetic vignettes of the life of Saliessen, the bard of that series, and David Sparenberg, whose poems evoking the mythic qualities of nature, have appeared in the last five issues, offers us “The Wild God” for this one.

L. C. Atencio once more provides a cover and three illustrations. He also offers his invaluable help as associate editor, without which, very likely, this issue would not be appearing.