

Wilderness House Literary Review 3/3

Eric Greinke

Shallow Water

Sliding into a microcosmic world of tiny fish & underwater forests, my kayak is a floating zeppelin that eclipses the sunny beams, a giant's shadow disturbing the peace. Looking from above, I enter the minnow world briefly, but then the roar of an airplane tears me from my reverie. The pilot looks down on me, then enters a cloud. A tiny turtle swims by between the sand & the stars.

High Water

You see all kinds of flotsam in high water: life jackets lost overboard in the fall, sections of dock torn from shore by the last big wind, & always the styrofoam bait boxes, beer coolers & belly boards. A paddler has two options: look away at a more pristine view, or stop to clean it up.