

## Callie Plaxco

### Do You Remember the First Time You Realized the World is Much Larger than Yourself?

All the while the water boils,  
the snow melts,

the soul comes  
home to remind you of yourself,

as if to say, dear person,  
I am here.

All the while the folding in  
like paper, like paper animals,

like folded prayers  
and then the folding out:

bones breaking,  
blood blueing,

all the mechanisms of the body  
undoing

until inside –  
mountain range, alpine meadow,

rock, wildflower,  
old, unmelted snow.

And here the trail  
where I am walking

between the corners of skin  
and sky.

As her grandmother once said, **Callie Plaxco** flew the coop when she left South Carolina to journey west to the University of Wyoming for her MFA. Her work has been published at *Carve Magazine*, *Tinderbox Poetry Journal*, *Poached Hare* and *Axe Factory*.