Acknowledgments



Illustration by Molly Vorhaus

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Finally, written words alone can't carry gratitude to the souls of those whose lives are written about in these poems; the reader's inner voice, however, gives my words a wind to float on in search of you.

~ mvo, 26 sept 2026

All meat sheds, including the one where I conceived this work, are situated in places with much deeper roots than the ones I have overlain. Through this work and these closing words I wish to honor the connections that Indigenous Peoples have to this land, recognizing the impact of settler colonialism for people, nonhuman animals, and the Earth more broadly. I seek to honor Indigenous pasts and presents to help ensure vibrant and abundant futures for all beings, and commit to deepening my relationships with the land and to the human and other relatives with whom it is shared.

Adapted from the Land Acknowledgment statement of Gettysburg College, from which place this work continues.

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