

The Messenger

Volume 2012
Issue 1 *The Messenger, Spring 2012*

Article 24

Spring 2012

Breathing Life

Clayton Helms

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarship.richmond.edu/messenger>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Helms, Clayton (2012) "Breathing Life," *The Messenger*: Vol. 2012: Iss. 1, Article 24.
Available at: <http://scholarship.richmond.edu/messenger/vol2012/iss1/24>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by UR Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Messenger by an authorized administrator of UR Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact scholarshiprepository@richmond.edu.

Breathing Life

By Clayton Helms

When the softness of the forest in September
Recedes to crisper breaths from trees
With apples awaiting outstretched hands
When cloudless exhale brings a breeze
We take it to the forest
Us and our gusto
To slip through cool and closing doors
And shake it with the sugar maple
While she still has children who dance
When cloudless exhale lifts a trance
We have eight legs to run from diminished
Waves and laughs and bent dreams
But flowing not unlike her streams
We bask in cool yet golden winds