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Autumn Inventory

Now in November the leaves have turned with the turning of the heart, and the year's inventory lies like harvest in the field.

Autumn's mellow sadness hangs darkly over the worn habit of my days, calling me back to things undone and the ache of self-betrayal.

When I see the fruit of that fallow harvest, I taste the bittersweet of this lost time and know it will not come again, now in November.

—Joseph Harris

Poets in this issue: Bob Henry Baber, Athens, West Virginia, is a well-known Appalachian poet and teacher . . . Marilou Awiakta is an internationally published poet. She lives in Memphis, Tennessee, and works in schools, prisons, and universities . . . Patricia McKee, Waterville, Maine, is a registered nurse and a new poet . . . Sandra Fowler lives in West Columbia, West Virginia. Her first book of poetry was published in Israel in 1972 . . . Joseph Bathanti writes poetry and fiction and teaches English at Mitchell Community College, Statesville, North Carolina . . . Joseph Harris is a freelance writer living in Aiken, South Carolina. His work has been in Appalachian Heritage several times.