



*Morning in the Blue Ridge*  
Blue Ridge Mountains, Western North Carolina  
Photo by Dan Hardison

## Morning in the Blue Ridge

*Dan Hardison*

Morning comes  
to these mountains before me.  
Not in a rush  
but gently and silently.

It is a cloud-covered morning  
bathed in a myriad of blues.  
It is hard to tell  
where the mountains end  
and the heavens begin.

There is little sound  
save for a breeze  
rustling through the trees,  
and a mourning dove  
somewhere in the distance.

As time slowly moves on  
there seems to be little change -  
as though time itself  
was standing still.

But at some point  
this peaceful calm will be broken.  
The sun will come alive  
and the day will awaken.