

Many Mirrors

There is only one mirror in my house.

The one mirror is an old mirror
framed in oak with carved flowers.
My husband used it each morning
to shave.

His mother passed it down to him
as her mother had passed it along to her.
I placed this mirror on the floor at the end
of a long hallway so it only ever shows

my legs and feet—just a glimpse of me,
as I return each night to sleep in a room
without mirrors—I have enough
memories to make a mirror shine,

though memory's depth forever burrows
its own darkness. Under the wings
of a cherry tree, white blossoms

rain on me as I measure my place

among mirrors who still love me—

faces of our children.

Mary Salisbury is the author of two chapbooks, *Come What May* and *Scarlet Rain Boots* (Finishing Line Press). Her work has appeared in *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *North Dakota Review*, *Calyx*, *Westchester Review*, and other journals. Her short story collection, *Side Effects of Wanting* was published by Main Street Rag. An Oregon Literary Arts Fellowship recipient, Mary earned her MFA in writing from Pacific University.