TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mapping the Terrain: A Preface  IX

INTRODUCTION
XIII – Of Fire and Ice: The Pleasing Sting of Flash Nonfiction –  
Dinty W. Moore

MYSTERIOUS, AMBITIOUS, AND INTIMATE:
THE FLASH NONFICTION FORM
1 – On Miniatures – Lia Purpura
8 – Writing into the Flash: On Finding Short Nonfiction’s  
Decisive Moment – Barrie Jean Borich
15 – On Carnival Lights, Compression, and Mice – Carol Guess
22 – Writing in Place – Bret Lott

“NO IDEAS BUT IN THINGS”:  
THE POWER OF IMAGE AND DETAIL
28 – Friendship, Intuition, and Trust: On the Importance of Detail –  
Brenda Miller
33 – Memory Triggers and Tropes – Rigoberto González
37 – Paper Clips, Sausage, Candy Cigarettes, Silk: “Thingy-ness”  
in Flash Nonfiction – Anne Panning
43 – The Ant in the Water Droplet – Philip Graham
50 – The Wound of the Photograph: A Meditation on the  
Well-Chosen Detail – Robin Hemley

SPEAKING TO THE READER: ON FINDING YOUR VOICE
57 – Crafting Voice – Jennifer Sinor
64 – Communal and Personal Voices – Lee Martin
70 – Writing Though Innocence and Experience:  
Voices in Flash Nonfiction – Sue William Silverman
## Table of Contents

**WORDS, WONDERFUL WORDS: USING SOUND AND LANGUAGE**  
76 – The Sounds and Sense of Sentences – *Barbara Hurd*  
82 – Location, Location, Location – *Peggy Shumaker*  
86 – Word Hoards: On Diction and the Riches of the English Language – *Eric LeMay*

**OF YOU AND I: THOUGHTS ON POINT-OF-VIEW**  
93 – Bye-Bye, I, and Hello, You – *Ira Sukrungruang*  
100 – All About You – *Dinah Lenney*  
105 – Weaving Past, Present, and Future in Flash Nonfiction – *Norma Elia Cantú*

**SETTLING ON STRUCTURE: SHAPING FLASH NONFICTION**  
113 – Over the River and Through the Woods, to Almanac We Go: On the Use of Research and Lists in Flash Nonfiction – *Aimee Nezhukumatathil*  
118 – The Art of Digression – *Judith Kitchen*  
126 – Building a Frame, Giving an Essay a Form – *Maggie McKnight*

**THE SINGULAR MOMENT: WHERE TO BEGIN, WHERE TO END**  
134 – The Question of Where We Begin – *Kyle Minor*  
142 – Of Artifacts and MRIs, or Stuck on the Web with You – *Nicole Walker*  
151 – On Beginnings and Endings – *Jenny Boully*

**AGAINST THE GRAIN: ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO FLASH NONFICTION**  
157 – Writing the Brief Contrary Essay – *Patrick Madden*  
164 – Walking, Gathering, Listening: Writing from the Green World – *Jeff Gundy*

Further Reading 171  
Credits 174  
Acknowledgments 176  
About the Editor 178  
A Note About the Type 179