

Miles Varana

Earth's Answer – Tomah, WI

The blooming of the floodplain
is surreal in its brevity. Red-
capped mushrooms are stooge
to wind-wavering ferns. On
June evenings the riverside is a
burnished copper blade. By
night the river knits pockets
beneath town, and each sleeping
mind that passes downstream
stops to add a secret.

Miles Varana's work has appeared in *Typehouse*, *The Penn Review*, and *Passages North*. He has worked previously as a staff reader and managing editor at *Hawai'i Pacific Review*. Miles currently works for WKBT News in La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he does his best to be a good Millennial despite disliking tandem bike rides.