

# There Are Many Mornings When I See Him

*by Cielle Tewksbury*

A bent and withered Vermont farmer  
rising early, without question,  
to revisit the land he has tended  
for more than eighty years.

He pauses, often gazing out across the hay fields,  
assessing this year's growth.  
Sometimes, he will stoop to gather up the dirt  
to sift it gently in his worn and knowing hands.

His sons and grandson hay the field now.  
He watches from the sidelines  
with an ancient scythe and winnows down the edges  
where the tractors cannot reach.

This morning the summer sun is hidden,  
barely piercing through the wet and humid fog.  
I watch as he walks his land and slowly  
disappears, dissolving into mist.

I wonder who will bless this earth each day  
when he is gone.

The Broadsider, Copyright © 2009 by Poor Souls Press.  
A Limited Edition Broadside from Poor Souls Press, Millbrae, CA USA,  
of which 100 copies are numbered and signed by the author.  
*There Are Many Mornings When I See Him* by Cielle Tewksbury  
From *Vermont Passages*, Copyright © 2008 by Cielle Tewksbury

The Broadsider: **Volume One, Series Six.** Regular Issue.