**HALFWAY UP**

Halfway up the mountain, you stop and rest.

Muscles weary. Lungs bursting. Ambition wavering.

You look down, and it doesn’t seem

Near as far as looking up,

And the summit seems to shift further away

The more you strive towards it.

The hardest thing is the next step. And the one after that.

But the view—ah, the view!

It grows more wondrous all the time.

7/11/24