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POETRY | FALL 2012

## Cartographer...

By Laurel Jessup

discovery of how you found your way  
as you enter the sisterhood of mothers  
you should be proud  
how you carried your body  
wore your skin  
surrendered yourself

joy emanating from every part of you  
the water moved around you  
as it moved through you  
now mixing with sweet salt  
running past deep brown eyes  
streaming down flushed cheeks

your hands explore  
the new geography of this body  
curve of shoulder length of spine  
rise of chest falling gracefully  
discovering untamed places  
new wonders beneath your fingertips

what was once two in one  
moved tectonically  
new forms new shape  
you will find your way  
you are the way  
you are the world

*.... no matter how much you map, the exploring will never cease....*

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**Laurel Jessup is a recent graduate of Columbia's Nurse Midwife Program. She is passionate about the work that she does and looking forward to a long career working with women across their lifespans.**

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