

## Capturing Maine Through a Summer of Short Story Writing

Catherine Crouch, 2023

At the onset of the summer my goal was to write a collection of interconnected short stories centered around the idea of place, and how where we are influences our actions, thoughts, and feelings. Maine has become a home to me, so I wanted to explore different stories through fiction tied to the state in the past. I have tended to write exclusively character-driven stories. While I still like this approach, before this summer I had never experimented with using setting as anything more than that, so I am grateful that the fellowship allowed me to experiment with using place as a driving force for the first time.

I wanted to explore the different relationships we can have to where we are and where we