

One Mile at a Time

for the Colorado Scenic Byways

Though the road
may lead to the highest peaks
or to the oldest settlements
or to petrified trees,

though the road may lead us
to dinosaur footprints
or ancient cliff dwellings
or great sand dunes,

with every route,
every turn, every curve
the road also leads us
deeper into the truth of ourselves—

travelers in history,
stewards of beauty,
characters in a story
even now unfolding.

Past vast herds of elk,
old mining shacks, ghost towns,
through deep twisting canyons
and peach orchards in bloom,

these roads don't just take us
from one place to another,
they offer us the real joy ride—
joy in coming together on the way,

joy in connecting with the land,
joy in exploring our collective past,
joy in this journey in which every moment,
every mile invites us to arrive.

—Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer