

DAVID BUBLITZ

Combat Pay

Waking, the smell
black coffee

kiwi boot polish
cowboy killers

it's called camouflage because
when he puts it on, he disappears

I fit his arms the way a soldier's life
fills one olive canvas duffle bag

my mother climbs into
the driver's side of the truck

adjusting the seat again
adjusting the seat again

adjusting the seat until
her feet reach the pedals

DAVID R. BUBLITZ is the son of a veteran. He completed an MFA at the Oklahoma City University Red Earth program. He is a 2015 Pangaea Prize finalist and a founding editor of the *Red Earth Review*. He has published poetry in CONSEQUENCE Magazine, *O-Dark-Thirty*, and *Proud to Be: Writing by American Warriors*.