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## Living Over the Stereo Sawmill

Kirby McCraney

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### LIVING OVER THE STEREO SAWMILL

When Hemingway lived over a sawmill in Paris during the  
Twenties

He had to work hard to get his writing done.  
When I read that he would be upstairs writing  
While all his friends were drinking downtown  
I found a certain amount of solace in it.  
Writing always demands solitude and paying attention  
To the echoes of mankind screaming and laughing  
Somewhere off in the distance.  
I wonder if it was as hard for him to not hear the tinkling glasses  
Coming from the Montmartre cafes  
As it is for me to try and not hear the laughter and music  
Going full blast downstairs...

—Kirby McCraney