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**OSERANOHA
(Wolverine)**

Under breeze
in the light of
this new moon
of the wild strawberry;
into the roots
and shadows
of this clump of sumac
I give you
this old tooth
so you
will return it
straight and strong.

Tekiatatenawiron!

Akwesasne, 1983

Maurice Kenny

Maurice Kenny, Mohawk, is author of *Dancing Back Strong The Nation* and *Blackrobe: Isaac Jougues*. His *Mama Poems* was awarded a 1984 American Book Award.

BECAUSE THE LITTLE PEOPLE ARE NOT HERE . . .

After a good bath
I pare my fingernails
and toss the clippings
into the red raspberry patch
along with the dead
blue bunting and mice
the cat killed.
The wood witch
won't seek
them in the briars and thorns.
Now, I'll have a long smoke.

Canandaigua, 1983

Maurice Kenny