

## Convergence

by [Kathleen O'Toole](#) in the [December 1, 2021](#) issue

*In 2020 the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn . . . the closest since 1623 and the closest observable since 1226! —Earth News*

Crunching over a crust of icy snow  
to seek a southwest facing break in a row  
of tall pines, I look toward where the sun  
has set, though violet clouds swept in  
before the final glow. This winter  
solstice night, we're all waiting for  
bright Jupiter and Saturn to align:  
voilà! The Christmas star—that sign  
of hope we crave. Alas, here in the real  
world, cloud cover prevails. Still  
a waxing moon breaks through  
to dazzle. Let dawn's light reveal  
subtler wonders: a lone hawk's circle  
overhead, the magnolia's first shoots.