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Sun Poisoning

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Sun Poisoning

Kristin Pfingston

it's wednesday afternoon. your
landlord hasn't fixed the window
box air conditioning he promised he'd have
blowing out ice by last sunday. maybe
it's the global warming; maybe summer
took so long to come that we've forgotten the
season might end before the heat does.
august's sun stabs through the screens
faster than the sharp wind we let
whisper between us.

so much wind in this city; so much wind in
this room.

swaying our hair like static storms; it's not enough
to distract from the sticky dripping heat and we
melt into marshmallow cushions, passing a White
Owl of trees and smoke from lip to lip. the air
smells like sweat and patchouli and tastes like
white grapes and warm beer. you
blow o's.
they linger around your head like
thoughts and that's the only thing you say. o,
straying through roomed wind. o,
fading away. oh,

the things we could say if we weren't so
afraid to be listened to.