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Hedonism

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Hedonism

Cindy Crosby

Picking them I notice
how they melt into my hand.
Sunboiled and juicy,
the slightest pressure
turns them to slush.
No wonder I troll hillsides,
scramble through ravines, ford gullies
--bruised and scratched--
looking for a likely patch
where sunshine has turned raspberry flowers
into pure deliciousness.
Hey, Cedar Waxwings!
I'll race you to the best ones.
That low-hanging fruit,
that demands to be eaten NOW,
dangling like drops of blood
on brambled branch ends.
Crunch of seeds,
sour tang,
soft lushness.
Sometimes thorns guard
what gives us the most pleasure.