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## Blackberry Summer

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# BLACKBERRY SUMMER

*by Laurel Ann Lowe  
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Under that lazy fly sun  
we run across rows  
and through patches,  
scattering lucky cottontails  
and rust-necked hens,  
toward wild brambles  
of black-beaded treasure.

The mousers stay  
closer to the house  
with its clickitat box fans  
or on the creaky porch  
with its threadbare chairs  
and chipped Ball jars  
of tepid water.

Auntie has retreated  
to her boudoir, glassy-eyed  
Uncle into himself.  
Our clay-caked soles  
fly us down the hill  
where our thorn-burned fingers  
bleed the same purpled red.