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Another Poem About Blackberries

Heidi M. Wilkinson

California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo, hmwilkin@calpoly.edu

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ANOTHER POEM ABOUT
BLACKBERRIES

Heidi M. Wilkinson

Hanging in the middle
of a million sisters,
we struggle for
space in the sun.

Someone will peel
ivy back, look for
those of us without
rot or mold from
recent rains,
pluck us between
finger and thumb.

And would we rather
ascend to their
sun wooden pail, be
admired, mashed, cooked,
then eaten by them,

or prefer stasis:
first to sour juice, stain
nearby green with color,
then, finally, mulch
for next year's patch?

Heidi Wilkinson joined the English Department in 1999. She teaches Composition and Argumentation. Her main interests stem from the political influences of writing.