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Autumn

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Cover Page Footnote

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EMILY RYAN

AUTUMN

From apple picking
the small shack,
the smell of apple cider
and doughnuts of the same name
warmth cast from a wood stove
falling golden rich upon timber beams
tingling fingers awakening
from woolen hibernation
an iron press creaks
apples red and green
separated into sand-like mash
and fall's smooth amber juice
rich cinnamon, honey, and Mackintosh
mouthwatering cologne
a busy little shack
the bees in one corner
performing sticky maneuvers
in hexagonal bliss
for cheering audiences -
people coming and going
white bags of apples, fresh and flagged
with leaves of authenticity
stopping here and there
for a warm vanilla doughnut
dipped in cups of iron pressed
fall – liquidized and golden
collecting in puddles,
piles of multicolored leaves,
running through the veins
of autumn's musty beat.