

JENNIFER STEWART MILLER

Under the Apple Tree

For E. A. S.

Praise fall and these withering leaves.

Praise grief, for the love it's made of, those bees—

how they hummed, how they brought us fruit.

Praise the last days, the last apples dangling on the tree.

Praise the fallen fruit, and bruise and decay—

for the seeds they nourish, the mouths they feed.

And praise the ants reconnoitering loss—

apples cracked open in the grass.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jennifer Stewart Miller is the author of *A Fox Appears: a biography of a boy in haiku* (2015) and *The Strangers Burial Ground* (forthcoming from Seven Kitchens Press). Her work has appeared in *Crab Creek Review*, *Green Mountains Review*, *Harpur Palate*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *Sugar House Review*, and elsewhere. Jennifer serves as a board member for the Hudson Valley Writers Center. She lives in Bronxville, New York, and can be found online at jenniferstewartmiller.com.

HERON TREE
26 January 2020
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