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Amnesia, Lover

Christine Stewart-Nunez

South Dakota State University, christine.stewart@sdstate.edu

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Amnesia, Lover

**Christine Stewart-
Nuñez**

Only my body remembers,
unfolds under the halo
of wings at a bonfire's edge,
reacts to the bite of grapefruit—
tart on the tongue. Flames
snapping air ripe with rain
and salt stir me. My heart
quickens when the wind
waves scarves of slender
branches, as I spot prickly pear
blushing magenta among rock
ridges streaked with copper.
Why does the crunch of snow
inspire? Razored breath conjures
luminous rings of sundogs—
déjà vu. Smells of cedar, fungus,
blackberries haunt. Why do I long
to crawl beneath the umbrella
of oak, scoop cool earth into my
mouth, curl my toes around roots?

