

In my right hand, a plum<sup>1</sup>

In my left, a fistful of blackberries<sup>2</sup>

I lift both to my mouth<sup>3</sup>

Sweet purpling of lips pursed and ready<sup>4</sup>

To push out fruited breath<sup>5</sup>

Now voiced, now aspirated<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> A plum is a promise

<sup>2</sup> Blackberries are feral fruits

<sup>3</sup> Cross-lateral movement encourages both sides of the brain to work together

<sup>4</sup> The /p/ and /b/ sounds are made with lips readied for a kiss

<sup>5</sup> The phoneme /p/ is an aspirated/voiceless sound created by pushing air through the mouth; the phoneme /b/ is an unaspirated/voiced sound created by vibrating the vocal chords

<sup>6</sup> Aspiration: see *wild hope*