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Taste the Rainbow

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iii.

How do seasons fall in love?

Winter falls for Autumn like a snowstorm, like
a sled crash,
like standing on the surface of a frozen pond when
the ice cracks,
and suddenly you are plunged under and the
hypothermia grips you
so quickly that all at once you feel warm.
Spring falls for Winter like a cherry blossom,
spun in the grips of the whimsical freefall. She falls
like a seed pod,
whirling round and round too fast to see the ground.
She falls like a baby bird from a tree, and nurses her
tender wings back from injury.

iv.

How do seasons fall from faith?

Summer falls when the dog days come, when it seems
her sibling won't be seen again.
The fireflies are out like battle signals,
she falls like silence on a summer night.
The dark falls late but completely, and it is still hot.
Autumn falls like a rotted tree, eaten away at the inside.
He falls from clipped branches, from severed roots,
from the pruning and chopping of being "fixed," from
the river that diverted.
He falls in a forest with nobody there to hear it. It does
make a sound.



v.

How do they find it again?

Spring finds faith when Autumn starts to glow.

She finds it on the ground, with buttons, pieces of twine,
lost pennies, and cattail reeds.

Spring finds faith by making it. She builds a nest.

Summer finds faith in returnings. It washes up,
piece by piece, with the tide after the storm.

She turns from bitter kisses to the dry basket
of a brother back from death. She offers him a
sun-ripe pear.

Autumn finds faith in Winter, what he thought was
a dead end.

(Well, it was, until it wasn't.) Who loves bone-dry leaves
and hollow stumps?

Winter does; these are where he keeps his heart for when
the melting comes.

Autumn fell from faith and into love.

Winter finds faith at first in the blizzard, which
brings frostbite,

and then in Spring, whom his frost bites.

He looks for faith in a solstice, in a calendar, in a church.

When Autumn comes he finds that faith was in his heart,
held by another.

TASTE THE RAINBOW

BINAYPREET SINGH

