

Deconstruction of a Teenage Moment

by Erin O'Kelly

In terms of being teenage, phases
And sudden shifts of mood
Are supposed to be common, right?
I've never been too erratic, at least in terms of people;
But in terms of food, I'll suddenly rediscover
Roast beef or goldfish or apples
And munch on those 'til I've had enough.

So one day, age... say fifteen,
I had a teenage moment.
The equivalent of rediscovering clementines-
Middle school was a second-rate crop,
Not worth paying attention to, even if there were boys
But the high school selection definitely trumped that (at least a little).
Attention recaptured, I started sorting.

There was this one boy
I sort of knew
Sure looked nice, tall and strong,
With a strong flavor in his personality too,
Although the loose sweatshirt was unfortunate
(lose the peel, please – too bad it's not warmer).
I knew I didn't love him
-In retrospect he was actually
Very much like a clementine –
Exotic for my corner of the world
And, in the end, quite seasonal.