



## Summer Tea

Fill a half gallon glass jar with filtered water.  
Rip tags off tea bag strings of Raspberry, Earl Grey,  
Lemon Fantasy and drop them into the water.  
Place jar in a patch of sun nestled in backyard grass.

If life allows, sit in the shade of the sugar maple tree.  
Read a book you just started while tea bags sink.  
This later part of making sun tea drives the hardest bargain.  
You leave to answer the phone that summons you.

You try telling the friend on the phone you must  
return to the backyard, but she doesn't stop talking.  
You let the tea bags turn the water amber pink without  
witnessing it. This may overwhelm you.  
It will seem an eternity.

Winter tea. Now that's the harsh brew that we steep  
when the afternoon sun slants sideways and we use  
a metal kettle and bitter teas. Winter. That's Eternity.

Serve summer tea iced in a plastic glass--  
that contradiction of a casual pace.  
Serves one or one more, but you must  
love him to permit him under your tree.

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