TAYLOR CHRISTENSEN

Banana Tree: 1964

today,
I live

in a banana

tree

with a dog called pablo.

in our attic, we keep

a Spanish radio;

and in our basement, we keep the Spanish sea—pablo

loves the sea.

when it is morning,

we walk

the rainwet fence:

the soft golden

hinges in our bodies

dripping

from our heavy pink

finger tips.

we are happy.

our hearts are full

of Spanish but our mouths are full of stones,

and still,

we are happy.

we share a sweet red fish

for lunch.

when lunch is over,

we eat crackers

and drink water

then wait for night.

pablo sits at the balcony watching

the full mango sun fall into the trees

while I drift in a

rocking chair

with the radio.

the night is so hot

that I drink more water

and pablo drinks

dark wine.

when night arrives,

we wear it like a moustache with a cigarette.