



Melissa Apperson writes spare, lyrical poetry. Her work has been published in numerous literary journals. Apperson's poems typically examine interiority and longing, bringing subjects such as human relationships, a sense of place, a sense of oneself, a specific object, or a moment at dusk into high relief. She particularly values emotion, mystery, and imagery in poetry. Many of her

poems contain references to literature, and, on occasion, to societal and political concerns.

Apperson has been a member of Concord Women's Chorus for over 20 years and was involved in developing the texts for the chorus's previous commissions. (*Concord Fragments* contains another of her poems.) She holds a B.A. in Music from Wellesley College and an Ed.M. from Harvard University. She studied poetry at Lesley University.

Grown Wild

You conjured springtime,
leaf by leaf

you brought the girl
and wrapped her in a blue day

and gave her
to me

Months, years, hear me:
I love this girl, her tendril touch
and climbing dreams,

her willingness

I'm not her mother, though
I am not the luxurious meadow

We are one,
the girl and I,
like sky

Grown up
grown wild