

Session 2: Poems Are Alive

An Abundance of Fruits, Severin Roesen. This painting can also be found here:
<https://www.artic.edu/artworks/182381/an-abundance-of-fruit>



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“Living the Language” by Molly McGlennen (excerpted). A version of the full poem can be found at: <https://www.willnixon.com/insights/chronogram-mcglennen>.

She tells us the Ojibwe word for blueberry pie
is the recipe to make it:

miibashkimiinasigunbatagiingwesijiiganbiitooingwesijiiganibakwezhigan

...

We trod through the marshy ground searching for the next lowbush
can taste the pie already, baking slowly in her stove
can see her careful thumbs creating the wave that edges the crust
sliding the fork through the top in four directions
holes for breath

as we punch ours out now—blueberry hunting.
We are this language of progression, this recipe
renewed each time our pails are filled and
our fingers drip hard blood in gratitude at the end of days.

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In this box, draw a picture of a time when you had fun with another person or a picture of who you are right now. Label the characters in the picture. Then, answer the questions below.

What can you hear and see?

What can you taste?

Where do you live?

What are you grateful for?

How do you feel?
