

# "Coring the Apple"

Third Place

BY SARAH E. PAGE

*Instead of the thorn,  
Hast thou found honey?*

I would like to ask Eve someday  
What she saw in the apple.

Before she chose  
The fire-stung glory of mortality,  
Did she pause for even the space of a breath,  
Tremble at the bruise of pain, the sharpness of the briar?  
Perhaps she sensed the hope nestled star-like  
In the core of the fruit,  
And so risked all she was for the quickening—  
The promise of the seed dreaming deep in the loam.

I would like to ask Eve someday  
What she saw in me. ■

*\* The first two lines are taken from  
Isaiah 55:13 and Proverbs 25:16*

