Blush

i.
the afternoon we first made love
seem plausible: was a tease
no better than this: deliberate
& playful: at the wedding of
a childhood friend: an arrangement
of outdoor furniture: on
a desiccating lawn: & afterwards at a table: your face
platter: an offering: of strawberries: crimson lake: or
plum: the afternoon that love first seemed possible: a fruit
that we might share: the taste of it in our mouths already:

ii.
it begins with neurotrophins
flowering: the swoon or
vertigo of the lesser romantic poets: romantic with
its lower case ‘r’: it begins
as an off-rhyme: tentative:
& vulnerable: a line
begging its neat couplet:
begging a line that echoes:
with a sense of rightness:
of right weightedness:
of purpose: a confluence:
something iambic: the
measure of the beating heart:

Thom Sullivan