

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 : & after-
wards at a table : your face

platter : an offering : of straw-
berries : 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