

January 2010

## The Wasp & the Fig

Bonnie Stanard

Follow this and additional works at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/harpurpalate>

---

### Recommended Citation

Stanard, Bonnie (2010) "The Wasp & the Fig," *Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal*: Vol. 9: Iss. 2, Article 48.  
Available at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/harpurpalate/vol9/iss2/48>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). It has been accepted for inclusion in Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal by an authorized editor of The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). For more information, please contact [ORB@binghamton.edu](mailto:ORB@binghamton.edu).

## Stanard: The Wasp & the Fig

THE WASP AND THE FIG  
Bonnie Stanard

Forbidden fruit from the Garden of Eden  
expelled Adam, a mere man  
cursed by ardor to become perishable.  
The allure of death by divinity  
deposits veins into the lobed leaves of history,  
blessed and cursed by prophets.

In the transient and early spring  
a garden of blooms pummels the insides  
of every green belly  
to begin the art of procreation.  
Inside the dark cavity looms a paradise of gloom,  
little lobes of fruit  
ripening into juicy stumps of pulp.  
When the sun drips on a private part  
it arouses a scent so figgy  
a tiny pregnant wasp  
nuzzles into the fig's skin  
and scrapes off her wings getting inside her desire.

Succor for the future figs  
hatches and flies away on nascent wings.  
No taste is so fragile as the wasted wasp  
among female flowers.  
So strong is the desire  
for lust and the taste of the fig  
that Adam forsakes nothing,  
not the wasp in his heart  
nor death in his veins.