

And Despite Everything,

by [Barbara Crooker](#) in the [May 2024](#) issue

Published on May 1, 2024

in this hard year where I lost it all and more,  
here comes May, which is more than I deserve,  
dripping in lilacs and bleeding hearts  
against a grass so green, it takes your breath away.  
And I still have breath, pink lungs to send it in and out,  
a heart that's still beating in spite of itself, and skin  
that feels blessed to be caressed by this sun-kissed  
wind, this cloudless day.