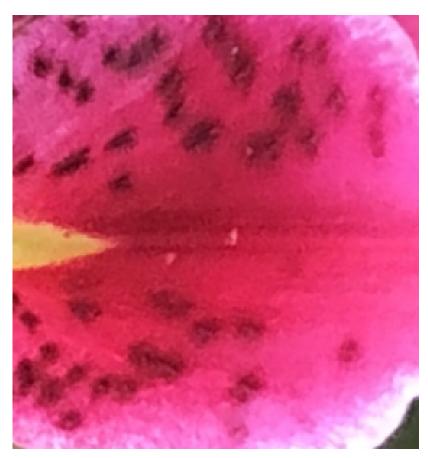
## New Poetry by Maggie Harrison: "Clutch and Bless"



MY RASPBERRY HEART / image by Amalie Flynn

## **CLUTCH AND BLESS**

my heart is a raspberry
 juicy yet taut
 fragile

```
temporal
     eat it now
          before it degrades and
     leaves a tasteless
     piece
     of itself
     smeared on the basket.
my raspberry heart lives in the
                                         moment
                       but not my gut
my gut dreams
     unpredictable
     digesting whatever latest bout
          I've consumed
               pandemic fear
               fear of white supremacists
               indignation
               incarceration
               playacting colonization with real guns on the
range
               a night in jail to protest police violence
               hope for change
               the audacity to hold it
     all of this roils
          my gut
               terribly
tangled in the past
          it's what I ate yesterday and am now
               transforming
                       to expel in the
                                           future
my raspberry, my beating heart
               crush it, suck it through your teeth, and savor
```