Summer (2)

The sun shines And burns my eyes. My hair is bleached, My skin newly raw And beginning to turn purple. I'm running From reflections When I turn away. Where can I go? The heat is climbing. I wanted this. Pleaded for it. And so I suffer, Holding my swelling tongue As if it will save me. How do I go back To my winter. Safely frozen Inside and out. Without the blisters From trying too hard To try to fit in? I asked for this. Like witches of old. Let the burning cleanse me Of all my foolishness.

Betsy McCall Page 1