**Sugarcane-smoked Tofu Skin**

Piera Chen

The taste of cooked sugar

permeates the skin yet the

tongue detects no

sweetness, just the smell of

caramel from an orange

slow-burning flame that the

mind can’t wait to

mistranslate. Each bite

summons the dream that

never comes, with each bite

tastebuds are led astray and

Proust left upended like a

flowerpot.

What a delicious coup d’état

in my lunchbox of a day.