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Grilling on the Back Porch

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Grilling on the back porch

I have been assigned fruit-salad,
endless cutting until the oranges
stain my fingers. Mom had to leave
the kitchen because I wasn't cutting
apples into small enough pieces.
I grind the knife into her cutting
board and watch my brother.

He's not photogenic.
But she took four rolls of film
last night. *Harvard Law*
she told the man at the one
hour photo. He won't make it
through a semester.

I let the door slam behind me.
Harvard Law whistles and pokes
at the coals. The steaks will be perfect.
Mom might take a picture of them.
I place the fruit salad
in the center of the table
and swat at the mosquitoes.

--Meghan Vesper '05