

2004

## Tainted Memories of June

Melissa Holm  
*Denison University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/exile>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Holm, Melissa (2004) "Tainted Memories of June," *Exile*: Vol. 51 : No. 1 , Article 2.  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/exile/vol51/iss1/2>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the English at Denison Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Exile by an authorized editor of Denison Digital Commons.

## Tainted Memories of June

The Sacré Coeur was bleeding  
the night we stood on the steps  
among the litter of drunks.  
I declared my love for Mark  
as I let you pull his kiss from me,  
inhaling guilt with your breath.

I will remember you like  
the artificial peach  
of that summer in Germany:  
walking barefoot over  
the warm half square patterns  
of sun on the wood floor.

In a breeze of cigarette  
smoke mixed with alcohol,  
one seventy degree night,  
you will be an image of red  
paint splashed across the left  
tower of a white church.

*Melissa Holm, '05*