Karapetkova: Rain

RAIN

HOLLY KARAPETKOVA

It rained for four weeks straight; the backyard turned into a lake.

I couldn't get anything to dry: spring wash of rugs and bedspreads,

varnish on the bathroom cabinets, glaze on the fruit pies.

My hair stayed wet for days.

The deciduous forest out back began sprouting rainforest fungi

big as heads of lettuce, bulbous as a squamous cell carcinoma.

So much wetness we didn't know what to do. We started letting

the faucets run while we brushed our teeth or chopped tomatoes.

1

Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal, Vol. 12, Iss. 2 [2013], Art. 16

We sloshed through excessive puddles, dumped the overflow

on drowning plants. We made love in the bathtub, filling it so full

the water spilled over onto the tile. You said I fruited like cookeina sulcipes.

You said mushrooms would make biodiesel, cure cancer. We forgot

there were such things as deserts. We forgot what it was to want more.