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Faith in a Seed

by John Leax

And now, late summer, the young
robins marching about
displaying speckled breasts
and fierce dispositions,
the starlings spaced evenly
along the power lines anticipating
the rush of arctic winds,
the goldfinch males, brilliant
in their patience, mount the purple
sumac and call their olive mates
to love, for now is seedtime.
The flowers, spent, spend all
their wealth to buy another season
from the cold, and the finches,
nesting late and well, find
in the wild dispersion
the satisfaction of every want
they neither know nor question.



Photograph by Ryan Patterson

