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## Season in Travail / Liberation

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# SEASON IN TRAVAIL

— by Maggie Culver Fry



ILLUSTRATION BY ALAN R. WILLEMSEN

ANOTHER RUSSET SEASON,  
CHOCTAW bold  
Is on its way.  
DEEP IN THE FEVERED  
GROINS OF SUMMER. . .  
CICADAS rasp, clacking  
THEIR RUSTY CASTANETS,  
THEY SERENADE  
THE sick, dry birth.  
INCESSANT WARRING. . .  
WARRING AGAINST THEIR FATED INVOLVEMENT,  
IN ONE LONG  
UNBROKEN pain  
of sound.

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## LIBERATION

— by Yvonne Carpenter

God said,  
“You are free. Don’t do what you hate.”  
Man said  
“There’s nothing to do. I’m bored.”