

CLAIRE CHRISTOFF

Summer People

Some people don't mind the summer.

Stripped of the cocoon offered
by cashmere and wool,
they sacrifice their skin to the cruel sun
or bathe in the suffocating film
of SPF 30.

Standing in line for coffee,
their endless chorus of
"Can you make that iced?"
is almost as offensive
as their preference for stevia.

They congregate in bronzed hordes
at the local pool,
where they enjoy all the chlorine
and errant pubes
their hearts could ever desire.

Laughing at bad jokes
in sundresses and Bermuda shorts
at barbecues and garden parties,
they never tire of grilled meat
and paper umbrellas in cocktails,

forgetting that September will come.