

## I Like Peaches

I like peaches. It's a simple thought. It's an important thought. The peaches are fresh where I come from. We were rooted in the same place. I have never met a peach that didn't drip down the side of my mouth. It's tastes attempting a balancing act between sweet and tart. They're delicate. They bruise. All this softness to protect the center heart. And although they do so well alone, peaches compliment others. It dabbles in teas and preserves and pastries all while remaining perfect. All while maintaining its same flavors. It's deep and playful. They manage to make red and yellow feel soft. There is a comfort in peaches that I can't find in most fruit.

Ferris is allergic to peaches. Even a little bite could cause a reaction. It's safe to exist around peaches, but not to interact. But they told me they were curious. A little whisper in the empty room. Because the smell is so mouthwatering. Sometimes I think they should just do it. Have a small bite. It wouldn't kill them. It's not lethal. But it would make Ferris miserable. And I can't be the reason that they're miserable.

But they love blackberries. And I guess I can understand. They're easier to eat and there's no hassle of peeling the skin (Despite my love of peaches, I cannot touch their rines. It's funny how it works out like that) . Given the right season, blackberries can be the perfect snack. And Ferris puts them on everything. I have nothing against blackberries, I think they're fine. But I always manage to get little seeds stuck in my teeth and the juice will dye my lips blue. It feels like the blackberries refuse to be forgotten. Like the taste alone isn't enough to make it memorable. They are just not as sweet. But they make Ferris smile.

Sometimes we share blackberries, which is nice. I am lucky to be able to experience something that Ferris loves. But I do wish they could just try peaches. I know I cannot blame

them, but in another world I do think peaches and Ferris would like each other. They would treat each other well. I have to remind myself we are not in that world. We are in this one.