



DIVIDA CONTEMPLATES THE HARD PROBLEM

Monica A. Hand

at the banquet
rows and rows of hot buttered rolls
plates of steamed broccoli

crispy tofu with sesame
Sapphire outside chain-smoking with the men
girlfriends and boyfriends inside

DiVida at a table alone blue food serenades
lemon meringue cracks her graham
strawberry shortcake publicly displays her thighs

for the second day in the week
she hasn't been able to get out of bed
left toe right hip space bar thumb hurt

a repairman is at the door
Did you order a neural network biochemical engineer?
the hollow chocolate bunny answers: *you love yourself more than you love me*

She bites into the bunny's thin skin
what doesn't break
stains her fingers