

## **“THIS IS HOW I REMEMBER IT” FROZEN SCENES**

1. Watching Joey pop the red berries into his mouth like Ju-Ju Bees and Mags only licking them at first, then chewing . . . and I laugh though I don't eat even one
2. Suddenly our moms are all around us
3. Mine doesn't panic till she looks at the others, then screams along with them . . . and shakes me
4. And then we're being yanked toward the house
5. Inside the moms shove medicine, thick and purple, down our throats in the bathroom
6. Joey in the toilet, Mags in the sink, me staring at the hair in the tub drain as my mom pushes my head down, and there is red vomit everywhere . . . except the tub where mine is coming out yellow, the color of corn muffins from lunch, not a speck of red
7. *I told you*, I want to scream and then it is over and I turn to my mother for a touch or a stroke on the head like the other moms (but she has moved to the doorway and lights a cigarette, pushes hair out of her eyes) and there is only her smeared lips saying, *This will teach you anyway*