

ALICE MAJOR

ANNUAL GRAINS

Agriculture's pornographic fact:
reproduction gets co-opted for consumption.
See that cornfield, tossing blonde tassels
and swelling into snug green corsets?
It's just the calculated wildness
of market forces. No truly wild plant spends
so much of its energy on sex,
on putting out, on hanging on
to seedheads that should shatter, scatter
small grains into the earth's soft box.

And all this captive sexuality goes for what?
Youth, on its shallow roots, is taken
at the height of summer, loses all its profit
to pimps, manipulation.