

A photograph of an older man with white hair and glasses, wearing a light-colored button-down shirt. He is leaning over a tomato plant that is growing in a white bucket. The plant is supported by a wooden stake. In the background, there are more tomato plants in similar buckets, a green hedge, and a tree. The scene is outdoors on a sunny day.

...september 13, 2003...

**do tomatoes ripen vines?  
do vines create their roots?  
green to yellow green –  
orange to red – i am fed –**

**does wishing create life?  
does life create the wish –  
carving green tomatoes red  
to line a dinner plate?**

**fragrant vines grow  
gradually brown  
withering through memories  
of spring.**

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