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## Ornamental Crab Tree

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## Ornamental Crab Tree

Poised like fists  
balled up  
in deep maroon gloves  
the tiny blossoms  
hang ready to explode.

Then  
on the right warm day  
you come up the walk  
and are knocked senseless  
stunned by fragrance  
and the soft explosion  
of a thousand red fists  
in your face.

Every year you  
walk into it again  
chin first  
always a sucker  
for the same old  
punch.

David Schelhaas

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