

He Loved Overripe Fruits

Hot sweaty body carrying treats
my Caribbean Grandpa came home
turned his pockets inside – out
and gave us runny, soft, sticky sweets.

Other times, the sweaty wet pockets
brought us bruised, overripe fruits
like bananas or blackberries.

or, sometimes, mangoes, plums
guineps, naseberries
or a tempting mixture of these.

Other times we knew how
to push, tussle, compete hard
to take off Grandpa's boots.

Not always, but, often,
turned upside – down, the boots
carried small-change in them:
tipped out all round the floor,
as he smiled, seeing who got how much.