the ordinary magic

wakes up at four yawns pores over papers and prepares drives in after a dozen years and teaches kids to think sighs thinks about their thinking

(until thoughts are like so many blueberries hands stained with ink, eyes straining to distinguish one blueness from another, lips numb from the bittersweet taste of process)

thinks again and hums on

- -DENISE ABERCROMBIE
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A veteran English and theater teacher, **DENISE ABERCROMBIE** has published work in *The Minnesota Review, Writing on the Edge, The Yale Global Health Review,* and elsewhere. She helps coordinate Curbstone Foundation's Poetry in the Park series at Julia de Burgos Park in Willimantic, Connecticut. Denise can be reached at abercrombie.denise@gmail.com.