

Poetry by Julie L. Moore

From my book, *Slipping Out of Bloom* (WordTech Editions, 2010)

Becoming

Spring-thick with snowy
blossoms, the ornamental

pear tree slowly slips
out of bloom, sloughing off

petal by skin-soft petal, bleeding
green as leaf after spear-

like leaf thrusts through,
laying down one life

for another. How
willingly it becomes

and becomes.