Soul and Role

Introductions:
- Name, role, and favorite seasonal memory

Touchstones:
- Reminder of our norms

Today’s Theme:
- Current condition of your work world; soul and role
- Poetry as the truth told at a slant, storytelling of one's selfhood
- “From Blossoms”; the ways that summer can create a sense of abundance and wellness

Reflective Dialogue:
- What word image or phrase captured your attention around the theme of soul and role in your work world?
- Journal prompts that grabbed the attention of your heart?
- Other noticings

General offerings for the group:

Closing:
- What would you like to carry from this gathering back to your work world at DU?

*Soul and Role Touchstones

- Bring 100% of self
- There is always invitation, always opportunity; never invasion
  - No fixing, no saving, and no advising
  - Openness to learning from others
  - Speak for yourself; tell your story
  - Listen to the silence
  - Confidentiality
From Blossoms

From blossoms comes
this brown paper bag of peaches
we bought from the boy
at the bend in the road where we turned toward
signs painted Peaches.

From laden boughs, from hands
from sweet fellowship in the bins,
comes nectar at the roadside, succulent
peaches we devour, dusty skin and all,
comes the familiar dust of summer, dust we eat.

O, to take what we love inside,
to carry within us an orchard, to eat
not only the skin, but the shade,
not only the sugar, but the days, to hold
the fruit in our hands, adore it, then bite into
the round jubilance of peach.

There are days we live
as if death were nowhere
in the background; from joy
to joy to joy, from wing to wing,
from blossom to blossom to
impossible blossom, to sweet impossible blossom.

Li-Young Lee
**From Blossoms: Questions for Journaling**

1. The poet thinks of peaches as the embodiment of summer? What fruit, smell, experience, or activity captures the essence of summer for you? What qualities/characteristics stand out for you?

2. What “painted signs” at the side of the road do you turn to in your search for abundance in your leadership?

3. When or where in your life or work are you most likely to experience the “the round jubilance” of your personal/professional fullness and abundance?

4. Do you currently have any “impossible blossoms” (your leadership choices) ready to burst open? What steps are you taking to nourish those blossoms and to let them mature in their own natural pace?

5. What “dust” (sense of scarcity) in your personal/professional life have you experienced? In what ways can/has that dust become nourishing and life giving?