Pitting Cherries

CAROL HARVEY STESKI

Skulls choke the drain, dumped here like a yardful of unmarked graves. Mama's kitchen sink a stainless-steel killing field.

Her Scorsese-style weapon a cross between ballpeen hammer and nail gun delivers efficient pointblank trauma:

quickhit to the head instant redvelvet spray.

With springshot cocked and loaded her itchy triggerfinger trips another bluntforce nutshot and the stress released is like a firing-range fantasy or orgasm,

burst apart.

She revels

in the abattoir she herself conceived, this crime scene for a greater good with its cherryspatter high.

Then roams the hallways for days, fingerprints and conscience stained the shade of latent rage.