

ELANA WOLFF

Tikva

We're on the down-side of summer.

This year the mulberries
didn't even ripen in my absence.
You didn't get to eat any before
they fell green on the junipers.

That's the way it is sometimes.
Up and down. In Hebrew the four-
letter word for "hope" comes from
the two-letter word for "line."

Up and down.

The direction of the line is clear
from the other two letters in the word—
from the last letter in the alphabet,
to the letter that stands for God.