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Photosynthesis: A Process By Which

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PHOTO-
SYNTHESIS:
A PROCESS
BY WHICH

**EMILY
ZERRENNER**

a plant proclaims its independence.
It needs nothing but sunshine to
live and grow and overgrow,
starting to question her conditions.
The gardener then has to mutilate her,
cutting off her far-reaching vines
“pruning,” they say.
It just keeps us suffocated
in Lutheran high schools
palatable for the parents and pastors.
Us morning glories want to be wild,
without boundary—take
over the building and make it verdant.
He may clip our thin, baby branches,
but we photosynthesize
and grow
and live
and be.
I need no one else.