

JUDITH BAUMEL

The Wet Black Bough, The Petals

Among the six hats carried from
Sutter Avenue to Crown Heights
the bluest one, blurred black and dark
like dress shoes, is on the head
of a boy who stands with a Kit-Kat
bar peeking out of his back jeans
pocket, one little red corner
waving like a mouse flag of war
in the country of technical training
opportunities, medical records,
plumbing, automotive repair.
Also sneakers with team patches
on a hoodie that says Stop and Frisk.