



Photo Credit: Montana Ray

state wax, state wane.

step by step i am terrified
bottled light inside the body
scan blinking nerves wonder
the hands & feet i splay i split
at pelvic wish full fold genital
lever pull making belief happen
stance array my limbs luciferously
look at me god's very manus
who pushes a button on looking
i do not know male or female
a fulcrum as genital as wrist

per this i will disco into humiliation
machine that i am flashing surveillance
daily the world whir alarms merely
as i appear

epi-visage from The Angel Of Blank

already devastated out of language. a martian & yet i March more mother than mutter. sad nutter she is. the poet of flowers. engorged by gorgeosity, where with all her sound goes lunar over the stars. each word a sister moon passing light into constellation with dark side. there is great darkness & grave darkness. to borrow & bling cannot forever. yes, a stellar nursery of earth is likely necessary. more place than person, the divine. she would make a garden of a single tree: e, pit, o' me. a denizen of gong. another gone she sheds she says *she leaves she leaves she leaves* . i am not the blank of blue. i am not the ambient above. what capital celestial combinate 'g'? i un-theorize gravity. i am elsewhere in the water (drink). come brackish combusting the enlightenment of a neuronc 'no.' *come poet . come infertile flower. grieve in the green intravene of us & we will leave this never-now this nothing more dust than dust* and. . . earth, girl, she is everything's grave. reader, be where your bones loam. to this hole-hearted sunder, in Goddess, we must .

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



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Jasmine Reid is a trans: Atlantic Poet for the People. She is the author of *Deus Ex Nigrum* (Honeysuckle Press, 2020) and *Interlocutor Goddess* (Autumn House Press, forthcoming). An MFA graduate of Cornell University and recipient of fellowships from Cave Canem, The Jerome Foundation, and Poets House, her work has been published or is forthcoming in the Academy of American Poets' *Poem-a-Day*, *Kenyon Review*, and *Virginia Quarterly Review*, among others. Jasmine was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, and is currently based in Brooklyn, New York, where she is an assistant professor at NYU. Find her at her website.

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