Poetry 163

The Holy Ghost in Polyhymnia's Closet

Elizabeth Garcia

"What you seek is seeking you."
—Rumi

Dear Holy (one?) I hope you are home for this. Tell me the name of your name. For this

I am on my knees (though I am closed still. Bruised.) But I have come for this.

Awake the ears of my ears, open the eyes of my eyes. *Hum. (For this?*

For soldered vowels?) Give me groanings. (Shall I bloody my thumbs for this?)

Empty your heart as a bucket. Which syllables constitute a quorum for this?

It's true: I want pearly feathers. Something seismic.

But I would be content in your penumbra. Or this:

remember when you died? Went down

in the dark of Buddha's mother's womb? For this:

not clemency. Not to be heard (I didn't

believe). To utter. One wish. Limn for this.

(Limn, delete, limn, delete.) Where is your sacred city? I will skirt it three times for this.

To refrain is not to hold back—but repeat, repeat, Find a hymn for this.

Remember His oath. God, you are abundant: are you satisfied? I'm out of time for this.