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Poem For Octavio Paz

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POEM FOR OCTAVIO PAZ

La chingada is a girl I know
who drinks the eyes of men
like grey water.
When flesh burns,
men trade their tongues
for a single night.
Ash-skinned babies
fall from her body, cold
like the pale river
men seek at death.
In the dawn of Cihuacoatl
she leaves them: blind, dumb,
praying to virgin saints.