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## Inheritance

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## INHERITANCE

Every night the same, you make me you  
twenty years ago, your older brother  
shucking down to skin, his hips a bruise  
against your fragile mouth my mouth the other  
mouths you've taught to Listen, this is love.  
Why we take the blood from bed to bed;  
why you know the way to stand above,  
to balance, stiffen, guide another's head  
when each of us is born alike: all heart?  
Our chests have let the beating in before  
we breathe. Our wet-blind passion fades; we start  
to speak the desperate monologue of more.  
We learn to live by leaving. Still, your hands.  
Always your rhythm of commands.