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# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## Conney Williams: Four Poems

Conney Williams · Thursday, August 19th, 2021

### the last flame

#### I

first breath like last flame  
she formless like smoke  
gristle & guilt are her altar

she the hard timber  
sacrifice lives here  
she lap my bark underbelly  
incinerate me like god

indigo woman so weather-worn  
her aftertaste is ginger sunrise  
upon a tongue so bona fide  
a clever open faced furnace  
she glow incandescent 10,000 years

eyes dilate like lebanon summer  
her words are truth and flint  
when she conjure forest fires  
all my prayers combust

she don't leave me ember  
or charred residue  
ash abandoned like memory  
she consume me spontaneous  
like I am a desert bush

#### II

satisfaction require that I smolder  
blaze bluer than a comet's trail  
sacrifice all that lumber  
be engulfed by god

\*

## waking to love in a garden near babylon

had i expected all this  
 i would be a younger man  
 full of hard muscle  
 wise like resistance  
 my vocabulary would be  
 laden with back-talk  
 had i expected you  
 i would be more confident  
 you would see the hazel  
 of my daughter's eyes in mine  
 all of you is more than  
 this rigid bone and reluctance  
 unimagined song you are  
 so much more woman  
 than adam or i expected

\*

## broken apology

you rather give head  
 than to say you're sorry  
 save your spit  
 i have forgiveness  
 for the both of us

\*

## sometimes it's not a choice

both eyes full of ambush  
 soft fang of your appetite  
 venus fly trap smile  
 accessible and eager  
 you use both hands  
 like any super predator  
 you want the sum of me  
 incarcerate length of me  
 my consent burn conclusive  
 like wildfire inside your kiln

*Photo credit: Alexis Rhone Fancher*

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