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You chose the right path in life though as it assures you it abashes you with dominating beauty at each bendfor instance these lines of Neruda you desire the way at eleven you desire a girl: to write just one verse like them, to know the fruitful softness, the whispering of shadows in light-sprinkled entrances, the female strangeness of their male force. Neruda: as his century passed and the astonishment surrounding him subsided, in you it grew, it grows: as the dead fall away, nothing happens except the living is laid bare more living. You look up from his book and are more in the world more world, and you look up from the world and go back to his book as another earth, another early home and childhood. He shelters you even though he overshadows you, not like a giant or a father but an older brother, still a child himself.



You two are orphaned, alone, and in guarding you through forests and the pillared eyes and arms of men he reaches his own manhood while remaining the adolescent of many promises, the slender alpha point of unhewn roads. You can feel the feminine abundance and the feminine void grow alert to him, his new power-can feel the rising of their hunger, their devouring and their tenderness as they watch him pass and engulf him, their necessity, their compassionall the things that to a woman love is, so different from you own love and so dark that you have to long and long endlessly to penetrate it.



Lakes and Oceans

My poems, as a making real of my thought you can't claim to be a record with lacunae. a whole music with holes and tears of silence. You're only, in a sea, some islands, huge swelling sea, sporadic islands, not even an archipelago—each isolate fleck a prison world of beauty and hopelessness that we can walk across in a single hour, see across in one glance, despairing remnant of a drowned world, universe of nostalgia in a nutshell, in the god's temple the carven image of a city never built, then covered by the waters.≫







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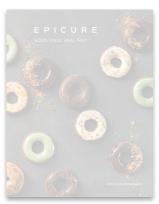


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