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Creüsa

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Abstract

If Aeneas doesn't see Creüsa dead or dying, alive or living, what is she?

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Submissions and letters of comment should be sent to: Gwennyth Hood, English Department, Marshall University, Huntington WV 25701, or e-mailed to <mythiccircle@mythsoc.org>. Paper submissions should be double-spaced and should include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. E-mailed submissions are preferred. ---

Creüsa

by

Gania Barlow

If Aeneas doesn't see Creüsa
dead or dying,
 alive or living,
what is she?

caught like a cat
between
a shadow cloud of possibilities

within the burning box
that has been Troy.

If she can tell him *go and be*
does that mean that she isn't?

Or just that she chooses

to remain neither/both
in the archestereotypical
circling
of the feminine./?

while he
has to take up his father and go
the straight-winding path that ends
in the inevitable:

 a city built for a city razed,
 a sword at the enemy's throat
 a son already crowned
with flame.