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Birth

Neil Aitken

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Birth



Neil Aitken

here where the pavement rises
I place my ear down
listen for the pulse of the concrete city
the second pulse of the slow-moving sewer
hear the electricity leaking
the steel vibrating
the yearning ache of bedrock
the stirring of waters,
oils, sands,
deep beneath
the child breaking forth
from the womb
opening fingers into my hands.