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## Tracings in Blue

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## Tracings in Blue

Above the Nevada sky—  
deep wild open  
bigger than earth,  
more solid than sagebrush—  
above that landlock flat  
white streams of jet tails  
stretch, squirm  
as though a child with old crayons  
in hand had scribbled them there—  
tracings in blue.

Their directions are lost—  
all headings gone with  
wind, sky, and time  
creaming into waxing glaze.  
Their distances fade,  
the proud plumages  
of purpose, of deliberate  
and firm direction,  
merge after the hours-gone  
into the cumulonimbus of December,  
reach fade and are gone—  
tracings blurring into blue.

—Virginia E. Baker