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(Mis)Carried Away

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(MIS)CARRIED AWAY

Christina Busby

I

Ten years
she could not bear
the sight of her
flat belly

In the secret times
of darkness
on her knees
she prayed

Saying,
O God,
please,
fill me with life.

II

The day of sowing
a single seed is
planted, deeply
rooted

In morning sun
her womb creaks,
blooms, scatters
stillness within

A fruit growing,
a tender delicacy
to be treasured
through grateful lips.

In wicked night
a serpent came,
slithered beside her,
crept silently inside

The shower water
stained, crimson
flowing, life fleeting
through the drain

God whispered,
but she clawed at
her ears, drowned
in bloody streams

IV

For ten years
she could not bear
the sight of her
emptied belly

When I was born
she cradled herself
around me, lips
breathing life into me

Laughing,
Dear God,
You'll never take
Her away from Me.