

# Mythopoiea

*Leonard Jeyam*

## Adam

How strange  
and forbidden  
this fruit is;  
how odd

I should seize it  
and see on its skin  
the sheen and guile  
of my innocence.

I bite into it.  
A strange shadow  
covers my eyes,  
and suddenly light

and darkness  
stir before my eyes.  
Life is suddenly  
inflected

with movement,  
a consciousness,  
a shame —  
a voice

emerges  
from beneath me,  
and I too  
want to hide.

**Eve**

She never bit  
into any apple.  
She probably wasn't  
even a woman.

Nor was she ashamed  
of appearing  
buck naked  
before a naive Adam.

She told him,  
"I'm just making  
myself more  
attractive to you."

And he fell for it.  
And he nibbled into  
something that changed  
the guise of Paradise —

not the apple,  
but perhaps  
an unmentionable part —  
that made her screw

up her eyes, myth-like,  
in fisted ecstasy.  
That's when  
the profanation began.