

## *Lilith*

Forgive me father for I have  
Sinned I thought about her  
Lips on mine and how her  
Waist fit in my hands  
And I thought maybe if I  
Cut out my heart with a  
Carving knife (slicing through  
Arteries, like Judith's righteous  
Hand) I could fix it.

Or maybe if I give you a  
Rib you could make another  
World, another Garden, another  
Flood. Wash away my tears  
With more water, holy water,  
Because God knows I've been  
Anything but.

I can feel the serpent in my  
Belly, big enough to wrap  
Around the world, head to  
Tail, tooth and nail I've  
Torn at myself until I've  
Bled like the rivers of  
Babylon.

Does it ever stop? The  
Guilt? Christ died on the  
Cross for me, so  
Maybe I should return the  
Favor, hang myself  
From a sturdy branch,  
Sword in my side for  
Weeks at a time. Until  
I feel worthy. Until  
I *am* worthy.

I am Holofernes.  
I am Goliath.  
I am Lilith.

I could not bow to Adam,  
So now I beg to you.