

1973

Gemini

Louise Gluck

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LOUISE GLUCK was born in New York in 1943. She studied with Stanley Kunitz at Columbia, and recently taught at Goddard College and the University of North Carolina. She has received many awards for her work, including a Rockefeller Foundation grant, a National Endowment for the Arts grant, and the Eunice Tietjens Prize from *Poetry* magazine. *Firstborn* was published by New American Library in 1968; her second book is near completion.

GEMINI

There is a soul in me
It is asking
To be given its body

It is asking
To be given blue eyes,
A skull matted

With black hair
That shape
Already formed & detaching:

So the past put forth
A house filled
With asters & white lilac

A child
In her cotton dress,
The lawn, the copper beech—

Such of my own lives
I have cast off—the sunlight
Chipping at the curtains

And the wicker chairs
Uncovered, winter after winter,
As the stars finally

Thicken & descend as snow