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Bequest

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INA LOEWENBERG

Bequest

Your organs are of interest
to the students. They don't care
about your inner life if it's
not physical or your outer shell,
not even your face, that unique
fingerprint of your self.
What they seek is how
you are like every other body.

It is cold in the lab
to delay your inevitable decay.
You have no consciousness of the chill
or of anything. Can't quarrel
with Descartes' logic:
if I am not, then I don't think.
The ghost has left the machine.

Why is it then I feel a shuddering shame
for that body with my history,
my name?