





*DAPHNEPHORIA*

ELENI STECOPOULOS

Who could hide in a tree

and not abdicate

great powers

a nation completely formed of interference

*when the dogs bark, run*

(How  
many  
troubles do you have, how many  
pathlets, walls on  
slide and stray?

what dimension is a doorway  
should it fit the light or  
sever the torso  
expose  
the neck of an intruder  
before he even gets a look around

To be a girl who asks questions  
trying to find holes in the material

to be a girl who asks in remedy  
black walnut white cedar

to fumigate the brain of trust

I'll get away

(you'll get sick

intoxicated by her name running into

streams and rivers

matriletheal

I'll become

metal wood



He stands at the spring waiting  
he is polluted and cannot enter the water  
but his mother gives him a code so he can enter  
she sings an incantation  
so he can cross the water and cleanse his name

All night of the memorial all day  
this fascination with analysis  
unwinding and winding the snakes around  
an active antithetic structure

No man is an oikos  
but a mother  
husbands the economy  
Three-legged  
dogphysician leading  
the name porous as rock  
plastic as Greek  
turning  
every word  
compounded from two

Where there is no tower to shoot from  
the whole family claims responsibility  
no individual can be charged

let's call it a rift / earth also is a private language  
the fault necessary  
to admit god / groundwater  
hot enough to undo the source /  
the rift when one gets or is sent away

No one young can see how  
opacity lends protection  
not risk

A tree organizes survival around  
open space

Hands Holding the Void

Daphnephoria

cleansed by laurel

the rape flowering become fragrant

the xylem rotten inside outside intact

no one young can see opacity's protection

but no one can see like the young in the dark

c o m p l i n e  
2 5 5 6 f r a n c e s s t r e e t  
o a k l a n d c a 9 4 6 0 1  
c o m p l i n e . t u m b l r . c o m



