

BELLADONNA* 3

Bloodskirt

by

Cecilia Vicuña

Translations by Rosa Alcalá

*deadly nightshade, a cardiac and respiratory stimulant, having purplish-red flowers and black berries

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Belladonna is a reading series at Bluestockings Women’s Bookstore that promotes the work of women writers who are adventurous, experimental, politically involved, multi-form, multi-cultural, multi-gendered, impossible to define, delicious to talk about, unpredictable, dangerous with language.

Bluestockings Women’s Bookstore is at 172 Allen St., New York, NY 10002.
For further information: 212 777 6028 • info@bluestockings.com • www.bluestockings.com

Rachel Levitsky, editor Belladonna Books
David A. Kirschenbaum, editor and publisher

Bloodskirt

Yo soy la vida
en hilos de sangre

colgando el rot

red skirt
zostra red

no one knows
how to weave

the sustaining belt
the broken zone

hundred tasseled girdle
ancient vest

the skirt & blouse
of office girls

um bi
li cal
cord

pubic string
let them know

hanging thread

net & ret

twisted grass
liquid thread

make them rot

nettle fold

tiny strands
rotten soft

make them live

CORDS CREATING
swollen skirt

wet string

tiny strands
magnified

*they awaken
drenched.*

Falda e'sangre

Yo soy la vida
dicen
colgando
en hilos
de sangre

Yo soy la vida
dicen
naciendo
en hilitos
de sangre

Yo soy la vida
dicen
tres hilachas
maltrechas
y todo el poder

Palabras via
 jeras
de lengua en lengua
animales
posándose en el agua
también via
 jera

Zostra
la falda de cuerdas rojas
no anudadas
la red cambiante
que nadie sabe tejer!

rota y deshilachada
de madre a hija

falda de nudos bailantes

Hera
las llevaba
canasto vacío
gasa soez

dijeron *zone*

Vesta y vestido
del paleolítico acá

dijeron

traje y hogar

“la falda y la blusa
de las oficinistas”

“formas cambiadas después”

cuerdas
pudriéndose

Encomiéndate al cielo
y raja el dobléz

que ni sirve ni ná
ni abrigar
ni colgar

cuerda y vida
corriente y colgar

soy la que cuelga
hilo menstrual.

Head net

The unborn
net

is humid
hem

unravelled
sack

ink
in a shell

the thinking of thought

tenacious
wrap

the fall and re
turn

nectar
co
mmencing

Desert book

Oxidized book

texts danced
and abandoned

book of nothing

dust and de
parture

book of time
and stone
shifting

book of breath

here
I go

I write with wind
oxidizing dust

I write with breeze
dying the stone

I write the body
dancing the mark

I write with gestures
crossing and temporal

my hide
of skin

the earth
inscribed

who reads
the signs?

the pampas
tattooed

the red
on the thigh

the traces
erased

who reads
the signs?

the nocturnal
sky

the stellar
dust?

the she
in desert

dried dustless?

fountainhead hand
the she tattooing

her body
with stars

the clit,
a door

budding
its key

the center and border
pleasure
 spring

finding
 I found her

marking her signs

the earth

her being

not earth
nor body

a mark

clit growing

an initial
sign

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