

Lucy of Hadar*

My three million years old hominid
who roamed the lush hills of Hadar.
Mother to Eve way back.
Where are all my other mothers
from Babylon back to you?
My Progenitor & Primacy —
Can we reach each other
with what to mean?

I just passed by
as they dug you out
My body of bones —
as they guided you out
of the earth canal.
Ape-woman
risen
from your paleogaveyard
to speak.

You said —
Because I walked upright
I grew a clever brain.
I said —
Because I have your clever brain
I grow visions.

But can they last, you frowned
with the wave of your bones in earth
— Such a fossilized strata speech —
I was taken aback — and said
The history of brain waves
could embed itself in stellar dust

Or if I must
my body of air
extinguished — bellow
can also be my song.

** Her fossilized bones were discovered in north eastern Ethiopia in Nov. 1974 by Johanson and White. They believe that Lucy is a previously unidentified species of aboriginal human. The bones are both ape-like and human like; ie. small brain, large canine teeth, but foot prints reveal one undeniably human quality — She walked upright. This led to speculation that freeing the hands to use tools stimulated brain expansion only 3-5 million years ago, with greatly increased brain capacity developing extremely rapidly after that.*

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