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(m)other tongue

By Julia Conner

before...

when moon and stone were the bulwark against which everything pushed and blood the first syllable in the body's cup

when the pulse at the base of the spine was a seahorse

galloping

before Raven

tore open history's bag or the equines rode the rock face of Lascaux

when time was the mind of the stars as Pythagoras says and the bright arms of motion our first song