

# E·RATIO

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## Two Poems

by Christine Hamm

### You Might Be Tarzan

in the beginning you can call her Sarah  
it helps to draw a dotted line down her middle  
if your underwear confuses you  
you can type on her with your tongue  
you pluck the moons from her bowls

you hold her liver, small, moist  
a starling on the telephone  
icy children's hands on your neck  
stand outside, like a payphone  
if you have an astronomer,  
ask him to hold her hip  
on the other side of the world

## Drawing Water to the Eye

*some text from Simple Sketching in Line, 1933*

Let us commence with an eye.  
This is too difficult, you say.  
Well, let us look a little closer  
and try to simplify.

First, let us tackle the eyes of birds,  
which close underwater.  
Here is evolution.  
If we draw beautiful eyes,  
you will at once appreciate  
the water, now returning in a teaspoon.

The country walker draws water as no  
other traveler. It is important to carry  
a bucket as well as a pencil.  
If it rains, you may place the bucket  
over your head. Absurd! you may say.  
Yes,

A traveler in Spain was offered a ticket  
for a bull-fight. If he had drawn himself  
drinking with the bull, he might have  
obtained his cup of water.

You are not necessarily an expert  
at this yet. Spilling, also, is easily done.  
A teary eye may be hid by a bucket. A traveler  
must always check for tears under his  
sketch pad, starting out, or he may  
get a pencil in the eye.

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