Morning and Evening, The Second Day

For Penelope Shuttle and Peter Redgrove

You saw the blood on my lips this morning and ran away and hid among the cedars by the river; and though I called all day my voice came back on the wind.

With evening you came suspiciously, not knowing the smell or name of death, but sensing it in the stain growing now in my flesh. By sunfall you found me sitting washed by the fire and your body stood up white as the waters plunging where the cedars grow, your whole desire a fountain wearing the face of stone. But your shadow fell down before you, a dark tongue lapping darkness on the ground in the fire's glow.

From Eve's Diary by Kathleen Moore