

# The Messenger

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Volume 2008  
Issue 1 *The Messenger*, 2008

Article 36

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2008

## Bath

Helen Queue

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### Recommended Citation

Queue, Helen (2008) "Bath," *The Messenger*: Vol. 2008: Iss. 1, Article 36.  
Available at: <http://scholarship.richmond.edu/messenger/vol2008/iss1/36>

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BATH

*Helen Queue*

I

the wraith of clay  
missing throughout,  
and I wasn't told, here is the Serpentine,  
here is the boy who catches ducks,  
here lie the uncorseted hours  
whose fumes will board  
every sideswiped quotidian,  
here is the world as you  
will never know it.

II

in the bed of regret can be found  
oracular fixation,  
fingers of jazz singers and saints.  
the true definition of "crepuscular".

III

CONDENSATE RETURN –

I read it on a pipeline in a pottery studio –  
the brackish, beautiful end  
of every dark ship sighted  
on the shoals of joy –  
maybe never to anchor,  
but to beat all the odds,  
to witness the homecoming  
of jellyfish,  
who know the most about love.  
they wear poison like scarves.