

III  
WHERE JUNE MEETS JULY:  
VIII  
Secretus Liber:  
*Beneath the Fireworks that Fell in  
Mystique Participation*

*“...let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly.  
And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.  
And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach  
unto heaven; and let us make us a name...”*

-THE BOOK OF GENESIS

3 6 9 12  
8 10 1 4  
7

**I** “Can I stay here?  
Can I stay in this moment?  
Wet clay on our feet...  
If this is life  
O may it never cease.”

Stay here!  
Just stay in this moment!

“We are seeds of the same tree...”

I can feel you breathing through the leaves...

**2** “...I want to show you a Mystery too:  
But June, you have to promise me...  
that you’ll keep it  
a secret  
-I’ve never told anyone about this before:”

**3** “May we lark on at the edge of the corn  
-the grass before is every border we’ve known.  
...And what lies beyond is promising home...”

“...And home’s where we belong.

**4** ...When I was young, I got real sick  
-I see the doctor now and then still-  
...that whole year I was stuck inside...

and I would play in my Grandpa’s arcane dusty attic  
Like an archeologist!

...Back before that old house burned down...”

**5** “...SHE REACHED DEEP INTO HER BACKPACK FOR A PAR-  
CEL WRAPPED IN ANCIENT WEATHERED CLOTH LIKE A  
RELIC FROM SOME LONG FORGOTTEN TIME...”

“...And June, one day...  
there... bathed in sunlit particulate  
...I found something incredible...”

“A Book?”

**6** “...no title, and no author’s name...  
No... June this is so much more than a book...”

What’s inside became the world to me  
...til halfway through...

...it just stops...

...That’s why I need that city, June  
Fate has made this tale a part of me  
And I a part of it...

but without their help I can’t see it through

The way it ought to be...”

“A HECATE GATE, A HERMES SIGN, A HESTIAN WOMB...  
LETOIDES... TOUCHED THE SEED ROUND HER NECK  
SIGHING:”

“Out’s now what we’re not in.”

7 “ May we lark on at the edge of the corn  
-the grass before is every border we’ve known...”

freckle maps now graphed on skin

“out’s what we’re not in.

8 Must it all go?”

“O please don’t...”

“Let me store all this sweetness...”

...Safe in a honeycomb.

“Been trying to hold on to something,  
and this is our chance...

Come back with me, we’ll shape it all  
Hand in hand.”

9 Can I stay here?  
Can I stay in this moment?  
Where I can feel you breathe  
If this is life  
O may it never cease.

10 “Stay here! Let’s stay in this moment!  
One seed await so long to find the other...  
But what good is meeting here in this life,  
if we’re just to part again...?”

II “IN DELPHIC YARDS LOVE LIT OUR PILOS UN-  
DER STARLIGHT....

AND THEY IN LIKE MANNER SWAYIN HEMLOCK, AND  
CORNFLOWER -FOR A MOMENT SIGH AND SHUCK THEIR  
HUMAN HUSKS. HEADS COCKED BACK IN A DAZE NEARLY  
TRIPPING INTO THE EVER-OCEAN OVERHEAD.”

12 “We keep circling around here don’t we?”

Age after age...

“...Trying to hold on to something we forgot...”

“...AND FOR ONE UNSULLIED MOMENT IN THE LONG  
WHILE OF THESE SHORT LIVES THERE WAS SOMETHING  
ELSE...”