

## STREAMLINED

See the tears  
Stream the sheets  
A brief goodbye this June

Hear the soft echo  
Gaze through my cage  
A cold December moon

Your lips will drink  
From my mouth  
Sips of mint  
Swallows of innocence

I'll ravage your roses  
With rain I'll smear their blood  
Upon my hands  
Sacrifice a smile for penance

Restore all color  
The glow of your skin  
The flush of your face  
The pink mouth gray eye

Forever pale  
To hot then cold  
Dark then light  
Black and white

*—Barbara Irwin*