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Voluptuous Women

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Voluptuous Women

(after Stephen Dunn)

Glen Brown

They are not like other women,
and they know it.
They make us tremble,
hold our breath, wheel and fantasize.
Everything is put on hold
when they enter a room.
Motion defies time, and we moan.

They suffer for this special advantage,
for needing our reassurance,
and we know that it's better to treat them
as if they are unexceptional,
like the freckled-face girl next door.
They'll be surprised
by our indifference, relieved
of having to put forth an effort.
They might allow us to approach,
attend to what we might ask,
offer us their loneliness in return
for not soliciting.

And lucky we will be
to have had such women in our lives
when years from now we unplug our lust
and drift perpetually in memory.