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# Chaldaic Oracles 1

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*Anne Carson*

CHALDAIC ORACLES 1

There is something you should know.  
And the right way to know it  
is by a cherrying of your mind.

Because if you press your mind towards it  
and try to know  
that thing

as you know a thing,  
you will not know it.  
It comes out of red

with kills on both sides,  
it is scrap, it is nightly,  
it kings your mind.

No. Scorch is not the way  
to know  
that thing you must know.

But use the hum  
of your wound  
and flamepit out everything

right to the edge  
of that thing you should know.  
The way to know it

is not by staring hard.  
But keep chiselled  
keep Praguing the eye

of your soul and reach—  
mind empty  
towards that thing you should know

until you get it.  
That thing you should know.  
Because it is out there (orchid) outside your *and*, it is.