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# Orbit

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# Orbit

## **Abstract**

I'm a coward / could not say what scares / me most I want to live...

## **Cover Page Footnote**

"Orbit" was originally published at *Booth*.



# BOOTH



A JOURNAL

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## Orbit

by Helena Chung

—after Yayoi Kusama

I'm a coward / could not say what scares / me most I want to live  
in the moon hide / in her coarse craters (close / the eyes)  
we would punch the air from inside her / dirty sedan  
our mouths round / and wet our shoes / pointed  
glistening with field / dew from a swath / we'd just disturbed  
if I asked / for a spaceship my mother / would point  
to her / belly as if to say my oh my / you've already forgotten  
the man had never squashed / fruit for plum wine / his hands stained  
pink for what / seemed like forever after / I stuffed  
the white fabric I remembered / the beauty that launched one thousand  
harbors into solitude / but what of a woman who can tear

only one dinghy away from a boat / house in summer  
the lake thick / with yellow tail the moon / clipped to a crescent  
no I thrive / in small spaces the backseats / of black cars hurtling down  
95 the moon pressing her face / against the glass the moon  
turning the dials slowly.

Helena Chung studies poetry at Johns Hopkins University, where she received a 2015 Academy of American Poets prize. Currently, she serves as a poetry reader for *The Adroit Journal*. This summer, she will be a 2016 fellow at the Bucknell Seminar for Younger Poets. Her work appears or is forthcoming in *The Hopkins Review*, *DIALOGIST*, *The Boiler Journal*, and elsewhere.