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In Conclusion

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Guenter Eich
In Conclusion

Translated from the German by Douglas Haynes

And let the snow come
through the cracks around the door—
the wind blows, that's its business.

And let Lena be forgotten,
a girl who drank
fuel from a lamp.

Gone into the illustrations
of *Meyers Dictionary*,
Brehms Life of Animals:

viscera, mountain ranges, beach carrion,
and let the snow come
through the cracks around the door

up to the bed, up to the spleen,
where memory sits,
where Lena sits,

the leopard, the ravenous gull,
math tricks in yellow
subscribed-to periodicals.

And let the wind blow,
it can do nothing else,
and grant Lena

Guenter Eich

one more gulp from the lamp,
and let the snow come
through the cracks around the door.

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