

1990

## Birth

Rachel Posner

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## Birth

When I was born I came out clean  
and everybody thought I might be an angel,  
maybe I'd been rinsed off up in heaven  
in a sunned-on ocean dotted with bright.  
Hopes and coos bounced off the walls,  
everything being up in the air, me not yet having  
made any mistakes, me just being pink and perfect,  
and even having blue eyes there for an instant.

Now my eyes are brown dots of dirty old shoes  
and I'm no longer pink and I've long been imperfect  
and nobody thinks that I might be an angel.  
They do wonder, though, what exactly I am.

Rachel Posner