

LAURIE KRUK

## The Chill of Arrival

---

*The Triple Goddess “corresponds to the three phases of womanhood: maiden [Persephone], mother [Demeter], and crone [Hecate].”*

—Johanna H. Stuckey, *Women’s Spirituality: Contemporary Feminist Approaches to Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Goddess Worship* (2010).

—or, the chill of a  
rival: when I arrive, mid-century, at this place  
where as Lady of the House, keeper of the hearth,  
source of Life, I am dis-  
placed—for while my moon time wanes  
my girl’s will rise, until it washes out all other lights,  
placing mine in shadow  
as her younger sister watches, worries, waits  
her turn: we three  
suddenly become lunar phases, or faces  
of the female trinity.  
Now, doing laundry is like reading  
tea leaves or playing Tarot, checking their underpants  
for Eve’s sin. Or a game of Bridge: Ace of Hearts,  
turned face up on the table, trumping all others—

