



From Tricked by the Light

Emily Leider

Peter Pan

What you see through the nursery pane:  
not the moon but my own smooth face.  
I've come to spy on these lost boys who  
sleep among women and learn to remember.

How placid they grow and how pale  
from confinement.  
Their power to fly dissipates.  
After months without fleeing, they can't.

One day they'll be anchored  
and bent by the weight of their satchels.  
Their smiles will yellow, while I,  
buoyant, green, clad in leaves,

loving none, will have kept white  
and tiny my perfect first teeth.

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Emily Leider is author of *Dark Lover: The Life and Death of Rudolph Valentino*,  
*Becoming Mae West*, *Mina Loy: The Only Good Girl in Hollywood*, and *California's  
Daughter: Gertrude Atherton and Her Times*.