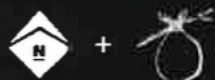




**LUCAS DE LIMA** is the author of *Wet Land* (Action Books) and the chapbook *Terraputa* (Birds of Lace). His writing has appeared or is forthcoming in *PEN Poetry*, *Poetry Foundation*, *boundary2*, *Apogee*, and *Brooklyn Rail*. He is a doctoral candidate at the University of Pennsylvania and the recipient of fellowships from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation.



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who told me to love an eggshell  
who made me release the crows  
on a pillowy night who handed me scissors so i would spill the stuffing  
feathers the color of oil  
they taste like \$\$\$\$ on my tongue  
it is dollars pinto wants or says he wants  
though he considers himself a spiritual guide  
his mother, black & indian, bled down to him a sky aflame with genocide  
it rained toucans  
whose feathers were already ashen  
there was not a child who did not collect  
a big beak  
to open & close at will  
sucking the shimmer back into feathers that no longer exist  
but could be imagined on a national holiday  
like an extinct tribe

by LUCAS DE LIMA

