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MICHÈLE BUTOT

An Ode to Lilith

THEY like to tell a story of Adam
 and of Adam's wife
 and how the downfall of the Garden
 was Her Fault

Of how Eve was born from Adam's rib to be his
 housewife
 and it was ALL HER FAULT

Let me tell you the story they don't like to tell....

Male and female (S)he created them
 female and male at once

And her name was Lilith

They don't like to tell you Adam had a first wife,
 don't like to tell you she left him

And her name was Lilith

Adam propositioned her, and she taught him,
 and they were sacred together

But when he instructed her to lie down BENEATH
 him,
 when he tried to FORCE her,

Lilith said NO.

Lilith said NO, and she sprouted Wings
 and flew to the western deserts

Slave to no-one
 Lover of animals and elements
 Wolf woman, Owl woman, Jackal
 woman, Other woman, Witch.

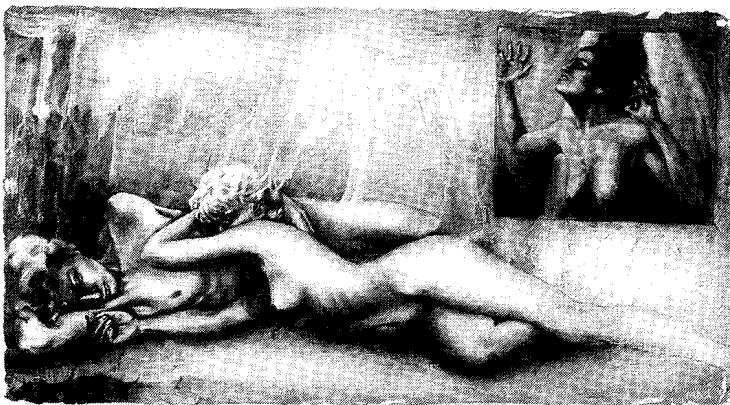
Lilith of luxurious hair and arching
 wings
 woman of taloned feet, Goddess
 of birth and death,

Lilith said NO.

They don't like to tell you Adam had a first wife

Male and female (S)he created them
 female and male

And her name was Lilith.



Lilian Broca, "Lilith with Eve and Adam," graphite, acrylic, spackle on rag paper, 24" x 43", 1995. Photo: Weekes Photo Graphics

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