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Lucy

Steph Haeg

College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University, studio1@csbsju.edu

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Lucy

scientists have found a star
made entirely of diamond
fifty light years away:
the burnt-out core of a white dwarf
the most valuable engagement ring in existence
I wonder if in the future
we will mine the sun
for precious gems
and I stare up at the endless sea of the nighttime sky
and wonder what they will be
rubies from red giants
cat's eyes in *Leo*
a fortune in mystery
scattered through the cosmos

BPM 37093 is what they name the star
scientists lack creativity—
they must have used up all the
gods of Greece and Rome
perhaps they should turn to Egypt and Norway
instead of numbers and letters
I think *Sigrun* would be a good name
for a star of precious stone
or maybe *Amon-Ra*
the shining sun

they nickname the star “Lucy”
after the Beatles song
the influence of culture
dripping into the jewel studded cosmos
there is an asteroid named “3325 TARDIS”
and I laugh when I hear that
the power of stories is painted on the stars—
the constellations are spun from myths
and now we name the universe
not with Greek or Latin
or languages of the dead
but with fiction

-Steph Haeg
College of Saint Benedict ‘18