

**annunciation**

by Carey Morning

it all unfolds  
 against a field  
 of hammered gold  
 a wall of light  
 impenetrable  
 issued from heaven's  
 stoked-up fires  
 upon her word  
 to that kneeling angel:  
 yes

she saw it there  
 the radiant shield  
 bright curtain  
 to divide what was  
 from will be  
 firm enough  
 to lean against  
 or catch her  
 when she stumbled  
 it left her in no doubt  
 as to whose errand  
 she was on

along the route to Bethlehem  
 she often closed her eyes  
 and reached her left hand out  
 to trace the patterns in the gold  
 lilies wings and haloes  
 strange geometries enfold  
 more real than earth  
 she read them  
 and they always answered  
 yes

so to the end in god-lit  
 angel-swarmed spaces

CAREY MORNING

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she played her part  
not looking back  
not arguing with light  
only once  
and not again  
the seamless curtain opened  
inviting ancient gods  
from ancient darkness  
to the birth  
ox and ass stepped forth  
to give her solace  
and to bless  
and in their presence  
earth was heard to answer  
yes  
yes