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## S.S. Scarlett

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# S.S. Scarlett

There is a blood river between my thighs and  
I am drowning  
My mother wants me to make a raft of myself but  
I've always wanted to breathe  
underwater; to be underwater

I tell her about Aphrodite,  
beauty born from men  
Born for men  
I ask what would've happened if she stayed in the water  
Aphrodite shakes her head; *nothing is this easy*  
There is no option to form gills,  
to handle Poseidon's trident

The water has memory,  
and remembers it's ruled  
by men

I am a vessel  
I am a ship  
I sail bloody waters  
I do not navigate them