

# Muster

*for MWEG*

It's not that she's been silent until now,  
though those who haven't trained themselves to hear  
the creak of mountains, work of wind, might claim  
she hasn't had a voice. It's that she knows  
the power of slow growth, of listening.  
Now, as she turns her mind toward the world,  
she'll teach it what she's learned, a better strength:  
the strength of sea that, rising, can't be caught  
or kept restrained; the strength of milk and sun  
and ink; the strength of those she's raised to speak  
the truth—the children who will match her stride  
into the world and build it better. Now  
her voice will not be hushed; this wind is fierce.  
It winnows, working mysteries in the world.  
There's power in a truthful woman's voice.

—Darlene Young