

**I Am Neanderthal  
(And You Are Too)**

A consensual scenario

early one evening  
she was gathering firewood  
not far from her cave

in nearby forest  
a man—one of the Others—  
hunted for squirrels

their young brown eyes met  
gaze ignited yearning loins  
in those guiltless times

some nine months later  
Baby joined her shrinking clan  
loved, as mothers do

my grandmother's love  
three thousand lifespans ago  
lives in me today



Image of a Neanderthal woman. Source: Earth Archives

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