

Ancestral Cave

on this very spot
two thousand generations
stood here before me

smoke from your fire pits
still blacken this cave's ceiling,
preserving remains

babies were born here
children played with rustic toys
old, injured, sick died

each life's like the last
through unfathomed far-future
my genes contain you

I flew above clouds
on a silver eagle's wings
to reach back to you



Cave near Pont du Gard in southern France inhabited by ancestral hominids for 600,000 years, including interbred Homo sapiens and Neanderthals from 40,000 years ago.

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