A Counterfactual Life

I exist, living
a counterfactual life
—I'm the "lucky" one?

the sperm that reached Mom's
egg could have joined that vast
kindred of siblings

who now inhabit
eternal non-space where lie
alternative fates

to those who failed, I'm
a might-have-been brother, cast
to this twilit realm

where I sit, awe-struck
that I exist instead of you,
an unchosen life



Image: Fertility Center, University of Chicago

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