

**HIGH-WIRE EARTH ANGEL**

Deborah Sue George

I am not  
the constellation  
for your madness

the amnesiac stutterer  
for the traveling peep show  
or your rococo earth angel

I am not drunk  
on vodka shots  
and I don't want

you to call me baby  
or reach for me  
in the way that I like

I am a trapeze artist—  
my barefoot toes curl  
around the high wire

I somersault with umbrellas  
fly through the air  
land on my feet

ready to salute  
the next act  
without you