



PROJECT MUSE®

---

## Beautiful Lesson of the I

Frances Brent

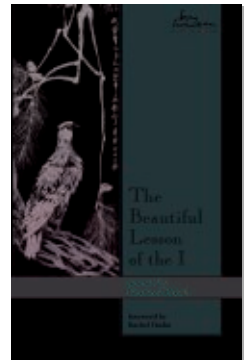
Published by Utah State University Press

Brent, Frances.

Beautiful Lesson of the I: poems.

Logan: Utah State University Press, 2008.

Project MUSE., <https://muse.jhu.edu/>.



➔ For additional information about this book

<https://muse.jhu.edu/book/9873>

## FIRE IN THE DOLL'S HOUSE

The paper house ignites  
with an alchemist's bellows.

Golden-finned, arched, dying, re-aroused,  
encircling every human and thimble-sized object—

*Love, with the tiniest, red torch branded to your heart—  
will you come now?*

Blood blooms lie decked on the mounted beams,  
devouring the scabs of tissue roses.

They follow the crumb paths  
through little halls and rooms

no larger than the width of a child's hand:  
tablets for worms, baskets for a litter of mice,

gnats swim in the pool  
of a toy teacup—

Inside the sleeping tents,  
vapor unwinds the dolls from the dolls' beds.

Acid    ash    snowcloud  
little white sails.