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Beautiful Lesson of the I

Frances Brent

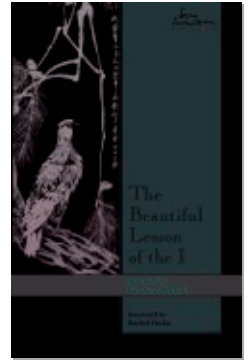
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THE RAT

Not the dapper
bespectacled little grandfather
with quilted silk coat and leather boots
but the long-tailed, appallingly limp
carcass left by the cat in freezing wind.
Neck twisted like a cleaning rag,
mouth leaking syrup,
bead-glass eyes of a doll—
And here are the diligent maggots
scrambling over disquieting continents.