

Act 1

She had dreamed of a moth ● Living under the surface of her skin ● Flapping around in small tunnels ● In her arms and legs ● Reflecting off her dermis ● Their forewings engraving patterned thoughts into her being ● Their hindwing tracing the paths carved out from within the subcutaneous body ● Like a moth remembers its screeching scent from its previous form ● Tucked away in this little brick cocoon ● She wonders ● Will it be painful when her bones pupate ● Or will she be left crawling on her belly ●

Act 2

As if she were losing her essence ● Tearing red and silver ● Cutting a pathway through her flesh ● Into her inner most being ● The moth buries itself inside its new home ● Like a parasite eating her raw ● An attempt to escape her bonded mind ● Edging towards chaosmosis ● At the moment of atomic fusion ● Strands of silk rise from her scalp ● Interwoven in antennas ● Suffocating at the request of the wind ● Lines spiral across broken in verse ● Texture builds on frons ● Of chitin ● left illuminated through ocelli ●

Act 3

She rebels into the unconscious ● Surrendering to herself ● Indulging into the depths of her being ● Retrieving a small piece of herself each time ● Concealing them within her four walls ● Walking the perimeter ● Rectangular squares hold her ● Prisoner in a frame ● Thoughts protruding in liquidated form ● Like silver birch reflections on river paths ●

Act 4

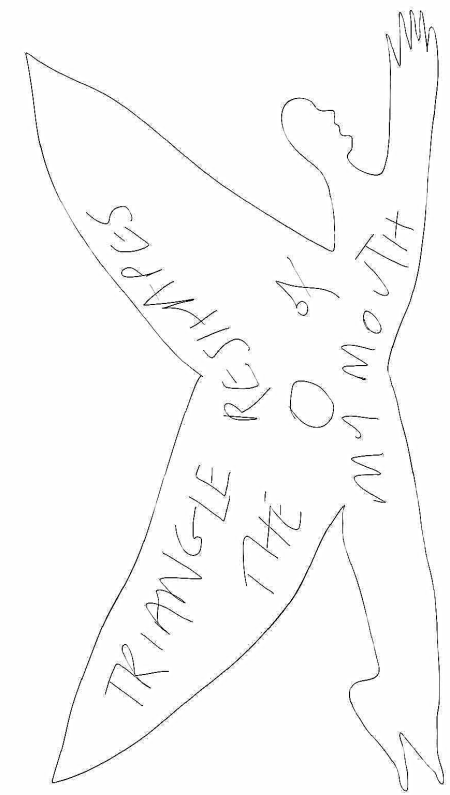
Encapsulated in thoughts ● She will cocoon ● Her cells melted into a deep blue ● Or was it silver ● Cries in the distance ● Screech to a stop ● Emulsified lines of wings trace and swell silver and blue ● They stroke fast and heavy ● Breathe swallowed ● The chrysalis stage of renewal ● Injected a venomous guilt ● For living and desiring ●

-
1. The protagonist exists in a state of suspended agency.
 2. Caught between external bodies, the boundary between self and environment begin to blur
 3. Repetition replaces intention; time loses direction.

-
1. The internal order of the home begins to collapse.
 2. Thoughts multiply and fragment beyond control as the body metamorphoses.
 3. The protagonist becomes increasingly permeable to external and non-human forces.

-
1. The moth is invited for dinner.
 2. It takes a seat, scratching the chair against the hardwood floor.
 3. It sits and stares through the protagonist's spine inflicting a cold chill.

-
1. The home is reinhabited as a space of coexistence rather than control.
 2. Solitude shifts from confinement to quiet containment.
 3. The protagonist accepts a porous relationship with her environment.



Expanded Opera
Libretto

Written and performed by
Ushara Dilrukshan