

## **Enlightened**

by [Luci Shaw](#) in the [February 2023](#) issue

The impression of an impression—  
a cloud like the wing of an angel, but  
indistinct, and in ten minutes  
shape-changed. This is how data reach us  
from beyond, seductive, blurred  
and imprecise.

We're determined to understand.  
We study and discuss until we think  
we've reached a conclusion, something  
logical and steady enough to stand on.  
Until reason collapses like a broken  
bridge, inadequate.

How clouds occlude a sky. How even  
when there's a full moon we lose our way  
through the woods until, almost by accident,  
we arrive by the lake, and the doubled  
image drowns us in soft light.