

# Lost Name Woman

Mississippi China woman,  
why do you wear blue jeans in the city?  
Are you looking for the rich ghost  
to buy you a ticket to the West?

San Francisco China woman,  
you will drink only Coca-Cola.  
You stir it with a long straw,  
sip ss-ss like it's a rare elixir.

Massachusetts China woman,  
you've cut your hair and frizzed it.  
Bangs hide your stubborn brow, eyes  
shine, hurricane lamps in a storm.

Arizona China woman,  
now you are in Gold Mountain Country,  
you speak English like the radio,  
but will it let you forget your father?

Woman with the lost name,  
who will feed you when you die?

**Shirley Geok-lin Lim**