

6-4-2012

An Old Moon and a New Moon

Tessa Jacobs
tesskjacobs@yahoo.com

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarship.claremont.edu/passwords>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Jacobs, Tessa (2012) "An Old Moon and a New Moon," *Passwords*: Vol. 12: Iss. 2, Article 9. DOI: 10.5642/passwrld.20121202.9
Available at: <http://scholarship.claremont.edu/passwords/vol12/iss2/9>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Claremont at Scholarship @ Claremont. It has been accepted for inclusion in Passwords by an authorized administrator of Scholarship @ Claremont. For more information, please contact scholarship@cuc.claremont.edu.

An Old Moon and a New Moon

Tessa Jacobs

This poem is a conversation with a piece of poetry found in the Kojiki (711 a.d) which deals with the adventures of Yamato the Brave. A translation of the original text is quoted within.

Dressless as I was the moon rose on the white hem of my thighs
On the white cotton of the sheets

A woman in indignation once told her man:

*As the years one by one pass by
The moons also one by one elapse
It is no wonder that while waiting in vain for you
On the cloak I am wearing the moon should rise*

I in indignation can only think

The years passed by but I am young in ways
I wear my innocence like a cloak that I cannot take off
Did you really think that when stumbling toward you in the dark
The moon would not rise, guilty, over us both?