

2020

## Animus

Luisa Igloria  
*Old Dominion University*, [ligloria@odu.edu](mailto:ligloria@odu.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.odu.edu/english\\_fac\\_pubs](https://digitalcommons.odu.edu/english_fac_pubs)



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

---

### Original Publication Citation

Igloria, L. A. (2020). Animus. *Shenandoah*, 69(2), 1 pp. <https://shenandoahliterary.org/692/animus/>

This Creative Work is brought to you for free and open access by the English at ODU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in English Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of ODU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@odu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@odu.edu).



# SHENANDOAH

Volume 69, Number 2 · Spring 2020

[ABOUT](#) [ISSUES](#) [SUBMIT](#) [THE PEAK](#)

## Animus

Luisa A. Igloria

It comes floating up from the depths:  
trailing scarves of pond scum, ancient

body flaccid now but the old hate still  
flashing dully in a few umber scales. Once

I bent my head to drink from the green  
waters, and with the first swallow

was betrothed. I was not taken away  
to a kingdom of glass and mirrors,

to a country where night was changed by  
day. My life was a spell: a series of small,

daily surrenders. My captor taught me  
of anger, how fists find hollows in walls.

I was not supposed to stand in the way:  
was meant to give and bend, lie still, let

the ordinary life settle over me as a fine  
net fallen on every surface. I look my terror

in the eye and ask what brings him out of the old,  
dank silence; how much of his own life remains.

---

**Luisa A. Igloria** is one of two co-winners of the 2019 Crab Orchard Series in Poetry open competition for her manuscript *Maps for Migrants and Ghosts* (Southern Illinois University Press, fall 2020). In 2015 she was the inaugural winner of the Resurgence Poetry Prize, the world's first major award for ecopoetry. Other works include *The Buddha Wonders if She is Having a Mid-Life Crisis*, *Ode to the Heart Smaller than a Pencil Eraser*—winner of the 2014 May Swenson Poetry Award—and twelve other books. She teaches in the MFA Creative Writing Program at Old Dominion University, which she directed from 2009-2015.



© 2019 Shenandoah

WASHINGTON AND LEE  
UNIVERSITY

PROUD MEMBER  
[clmp]  
COMMUNITY OF LITERARY MAGAZINES & PROCESSES  
WWW.CLMP.ORG