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Perdition as Expedition

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Perdita — les perdus — ce qu'est perdu:
The trigonometry of Greek mathematician Hipparchus (lost), the gods Osiris and Serapis, the tchenie-crown once worn (rise up!), Canopus, Melite, the Romans, the Etruscans, the Anasazi, the henna trade along the Heracleotic westernmost branch of the Nile Delta, the debauchery vanished into Abu Qir, the head of Bael or Melquart, fate, the temple to the old gods, the monastery of St John and St Cyril, their relics, the original pages of the Magna Syntaxis, the lateral product of our diagonal departure, the key to translation, a small ring, an ankh, la chaîne des Riphées (or belief in them), the knowledge that the earth is flat,that a sailor could fall off its edge, the maps and graphs demonstrating that the Earth isthe eye of the universe around which all things turn, the ephemeral sense of something sought by Camille Claudel, Lucretius, Catullus, Caesar, Cicero, Virgil, Horace, Ovid, Livy, Seneca, Sappho, senility as an honorable outcome, patriotism,security, the untended openings to public spaces, the potential of travel without fear.

About the author

Jennifer K. Dick is an author, translator, events organizer and academic with 4 books and 7 art/chapbooks most recently *That Which I Touch Has No Name* (Black-Spring Press Group, London, 2022), *Meridian* (artist book, Estepa Editions, Paris, 2022) & *Lilith: A Novel in Fragments* (Corrupt Books, Luxembourg, 2019). Her 5th collection of poems, *Shelf Break*, is forthcoming from BlazeVox in NYC 2026. She teaches at the Université de Haute Alsace-Mulhouse, France, curates the bilingual reading series Ivy Writers Paris and co-directs the Ecrire l'Art residency for French authors with La Kunsthalle Mulhouse Centre d'Art Contemporain which currently publishes one French poetry book annually as part of that project.