

Eva Colombo, *Eyes that see in the dark*, second chapter: *The Hegemonic Moon* (Inspired by Remedios Varo's painting *To be reborn*)

The waning moon rises before the sun. In summertime Sirius, the burning star, rises before the sun too. You are born in summer, during the period of the waning moon: the very day of the last quarter. Now it's night, it's your birthday night and you can't sleep. You're weeping, and you're too weak to raise your eyes to the sky. You wish someone to take you by the hand and dry your tears, but nobody does it. It's raining, but it will stop soon. Soon the sun will rise and it will set in motion a world where there is no room for you, there is no time for you. But now it's still night, the waning moon listens to your weeping and remembers. She remembers you. If you were strong enough to lift your eyes to the sky you would come across her look that shines through the clouds that are clearing up. Gather your tears and the rain into your hands and let the moon mirror herself into this living cup. You will realize that she is the same waning moon that has heard your birth – weeping... she is here for you, she wishes to toast your birthday. Drink from the cup of your hands the tears and the rain that shine as the look of the waning moon, do it right now, don't let them be dried up by the sun. Drink from the cup of your hands and you will find out that the waning moon shines inside yourself too: she is the moon that has seen your birth, that very waning moon called Hegemonic Moon by the ancients because she rises before the sun. She doesn't wait for the sun to take her by the hand, she isn't afraid of the dark. All alone she finds her way and she takes over the night sky. Now you've stopped weeping and the rain has stopped too. Your eyes are burning but they see clearer and into the dark thrilled by the dawn's touch they distinguish the star Sirius on the horizon. Sirius who is burning like an eye made sharper by weeping, an eye capable of finding its way into the dark. The sun will rise and it will set in motion a world where there is no room for you, there is no time for you. Nobody will take you by the hand and still you'll have to go into that very world, all alone. The

sun will dazzle your eyes and you will turn your back on the sun. The sun will cast your shadow in front of you, a shadow so dark that you will be forced to stop. Then you will close your eyes and the dark of your eyelids will be brightened by the Hegemonic Moon and the Burning Sirius, and you will find your way.