

Nineties Mythology

Mel Clark

The cleft, mermaidish tail
a yoga class gone horribly wrong

She is Barbie
poured into a top-heavy hourglass

She is Rapunzel
hair cascading out of sight

She is Miss America
crown atop her frozen smile
You know this fish is blonde

Shrines appear in airports, on every corner
so worshipers may keep her close
for she is in their blood

From Pike and 1st to Wall Street
with ankles behind ears
this Pacific Northwest Folk Goddess gets around