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## The Age of Reason

I am magic, my skin is glued to my flesh  
and though I drag my nails in it  
it will not come off, and though I drag  
my nails below the surface,  
seeking the young skin below,  
the old will not come off

I am a witch, I grow daily more wizened  
begin to chant in my sleep, and wake the neighbours  
with my drums and my spells;  
the rich odour of potions  
seeps, I know, through the walls  
to the young who sleep oblivious  
to the cause of it all

*Rhona McAdam*  
Edmonton, Alberta

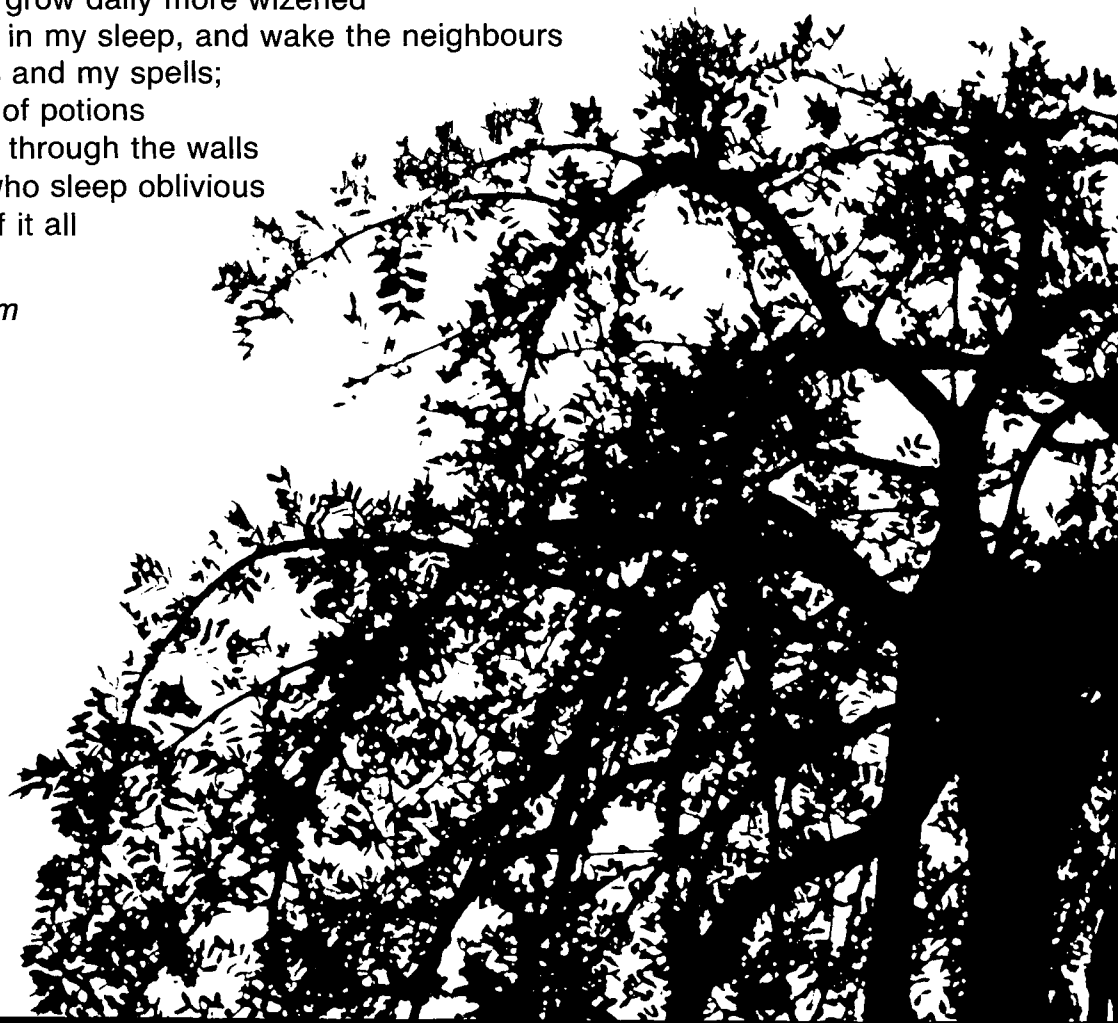


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