

Jamie Bernard

Chameleon

Its pupils are tigers seizing up the tamer, its hands are the love of an eccentric uncle and its mouth is the *snap* of a hustler's fingers. Its tail is hypnosis lazing in the sun, its chest is the intermission between two acts in a circus, and its legs are the slaves for a Babylonian priest. Its neck is Shiva's swaying midriff, its tongue is lightning possessed by the jungle, its crest is a deadly mountain crowing like a rooster and its skin is a politician's hand-mirror. Its skull is a float in a parade through a junkie's necropolis, its blood is the crocodile's warning to Hanuman, and its heart is the green room for disrobing oddities.