

Openned Issues 2006 & 2007

ed. Stephen Willey & Alex Davies

'The Openned issue is a digital magazine series based on your work interacting with a concept, theme, object - anything we feel will inspire dialogue amongst poets. Every issue will last for three months in a state of flux, constantly added to and modified, accommodating work that falls under the brief, or work written in response to other poets.'

Between 2006 and 2007, we created three of these issues for Openned.com. With revisions to the site and limitations of space and time, they were temporarily removed. Now the poetry has been collected and is sited here. As an online entity, the Openned Issues contained poetry in many different mediums. As a result, some of the work featured in this collection will require an internet connection. We hope you enjoy.

Steve & Alex The Editors



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For the first issue, we have decided to begin with the home of Openned, The Foundry.

The Openned reading series has been held at the Foundry for over a year. The structure, the paint stained walls and the fractured words that lurk have become part of the readings or, perhaps more accurately, we have become part of them. The Foundry's free, open door policy has shaped the ethos and atmosphere of the nights. We hope that this issue might engage with the architecture of the Foundry, the artistic work that hangs on the walls, or the work that is installed, the psychogeography of the site, the community, or perhaps previous Openned readings and events.

This theme is a starting point. One may wish to consider the Foundry under notions of construction, for example. If you live outside London or have never been to the Foundry, perhaps your poetry could be based on, for instance, a digital interaction through search engine results. Over the next few months we hope to create a magazine of poetry that can be grouped around the notion of a Poetics of The Foundry.

## EXCLUSIVE EXTRACTS FROM NEW NOVEL BY D. A. DAVIES

Read the first of five exclusive extracts from D.A. Davies's new novel, Working on Several Levels.

Picture a massive canvas of weird objects in a strange pub, guarded by a digital midget chopping at lampposts, axe twice her height. She scoops her eyes out to stare at her retinas.

Bells toll, four cockneys born; mother out of earshot, the tally bottoms three. She begs the question to nurse: is it mother or child who must hear bells, and if it be child, how can we know, and does the bell carry inherent dangers, such as fatigue, pinkeye or vomiting? VARHADE

A dreadlock master and blonde pupil worry each other with mercury, a little Tinkerbelle for a coke snorting, crack smoking, weed dredging lyrical gangster, soothing her he loves his wife, tells her she's his for seven years, she's happy for him, he says she's beautiful, I'm unsure if they're talking he, she, or she. Then they are getting off. They're getting on the number 23 bus. They're getting off on the number 23 bus. Ons and offs and a fuse'll glow and one will short, or shoot, short and shooting the rugby-ball biker, click the pic from 2-D, not him, you, not me, I'm with him.

On a street without Borders (only Waterstone's) a couple argue over the phone. There, together, wrestling over this phone, and this guy comes up and asks them if they've 'got a lighter'. They say 'no mate', still grappling, flicking motion like domino'd chessboard - a sea of black and white you can see colour, yes, you, zoetrope - Tinkerbelle holding off on a naughty interlude for fear of non-incapacitation into capitulation on a nursery of malignant narcotics, delivery dependent on a mess of dreads, married seven years, finding a lighter. The fuse blows.

Outside the pub, air too cold till you keep moving, the midget yells 'Timber!', the lamppost falls, several German tourists crushed with backpacks and random pub pictures because the guide, flicking a lighter, toked the nation resting claims on the resting ground of Spring-Heeled Jack. The planned audacity intoxicates, he crossed palms with silver and turned several Eton boys into Victorian urchins; reading Penny Dreadfuls and a face full of soot, opportunity for spare, they bargained not on hammered nails in feet, and howled like the tourists as falling glass shattered their heads.

Inside the biker, beer swills in stomach acid, coiling bile to his apple, poaching it. Serve with custard. Doing well until a gaseous membrane of engorged gristle and bacon fat popped airwards, a bubble of nasal anathema as potent as pepper spray, exploding in the faces of two young girls, this fat, grotesque excused human, more pizza, grabbed by the girl with the phone, her boyfriend tending his snapped left arm as she rubs against the fat man and smoothes sweaty lips for a cigarillo.

3c/5/6 I'm lost, engaged in anthropomorphic drama. Mr. Hippo is trying to kill himself, his four centimetre-thick skin a tenacious barrier bullet-proofed by hippies. Panicking: 'How will I ever die?', he gums a shark in half, the poor Great White floating into unsunk water, sleek and meant for Dulux blue, not vapid holes chock with mud and shit. Synchronicity collapses events into a singularity, the guide capped by a German with a Lugar, granddad's war pistol, happily married, father of disgraceful progeny who grew to grow dreadlocks, growing into he who grew for a living, his business growing from what he grew. The child slinks by, consumed by a promise of imminent lust, Henry the Hoover gets the spare room tonight, the lighter rolling what he needs from the hand of his half-brother, dead in a bloody mess, and Tinkerbelle's complaining: 'No one thinks about the road cleaners and how much that's just gonna fuck his brushes come morning'. The dreadlock master comes too, soon - now he has

He's a baby, her on the phone's a baby, sicky-burp biker man's a baby, born in the realm of bells. The fourth, stillborn, chops at lampposts. I watch make noises, worried Mr. Hippo will never end it all, a dearth of high cliffs or deep ravines. The oldest soup is Hippo, so there must be some way to get rid of them.

Working on Several Levels is available now in hardback,

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#### **Extract from: Working on Several Levels**

Read the first of five exclusive extracts from Alex Davies's new novel, Working on Several Levels.

#### **Chapter 3**

#### 1a

Picture a massive canvas of weird objects in a strange pub, guarded by a digital midget chopping at lampposts, axe twice her height. She scoops her eyes out to stare at her retinas.

#### 2a

Bells toll, four cockneys born; mother out of earshot, the tally bottoms three. She begs the question to nurse: is it mother or child who must hear bells, and if it be child, how can we know, and does the bell carry inherent dangers, such as fatigue, pinkeye or vomiting?

#### 3a

A dreadlock master and blonde pupil worry each other with mercury, a little Tinkerbelle for a coke snorting, crack smoking, weed dredging lyrical gangster, soothing her he loves his wife, tells her she's his for seven years, she's happy for him, he says she's beautiful, I'm unsure if they're talking he, she, or she. Then they are getting off. They're getting on the number 23 bus. They're getting off on the number 23 bus. Ons and offs and a fuse'll glow and one will short, or shoot, short and shooting the rugby-ball biker, click the pic from 2-D, not him, you, not me, I'm with him.

#### 3b/4

On a street without Borders (only Waterstone's) a couple argue over the phone. There, together, wrestling over this phone, and this guy comes up and asks them if they've 'got a lighter'. They say 'no mate', still grappling, flicking motion like domino'd chessboard – a sea of black and white you can see colour, yes, you, zoetrope – Tinkerbelle holding off on a naughty interlude for fear of non-incapacitation into capitulation on a nursery of malignant narcotics, delivery dependent on a mess of dreads, married seven years, finding a lighter. The fuse blows.

#### 1b/5

Outside the pub, air too cold till you keep moving, the midget yells 'Timber!', the lamppost falls, several German tourists crushed with backpacks and random pub pictures because the guide, flicking a lighter, toked the nation resting claims on the resting ground of Spring-Heeled Jack. The planned audacity intoxicates, he crossed palms with silver and turned several Eton boys into Victorian urchins; reading Penny Dreadfuls and a face full of soot, opportunity for spare, they bargained not on hammered nails in feet, and howled like the tourists as falling glass shattered their heads.

#### 1c

Inside the biker, beer swills in stomach acid, coiling bile to his apple, poaching it. Serve with custard. Doing well until a gaseous membrane of engorged gristle and bacon fat popped airwards, a bubble of nasal anathema as potent as pepper spray, exploding in the faces of two young girls, this fat, grotesque excused human, more pizza, grabbed by the girl with the phone, her boyfriend tending his snapped left arm as she rubs against the fat man and smooches sweaty lips for a cigarillo.

#### 3c/5/6

I'm lost, engaged in anthropomorphic drama. Mr. Hippo is trying to kill himself, his four centimetre-thick skin a tenacious barrier bullet-proofed by hippies. Panicking: 'How will I ever die?', he gums a shark in half, the poor Great White floating into unsunk water, sleek and meant for Dulux blue, not vapid holes chock with mud and shit. Synchronicity collapses events into a singularity, the guide capped by a German with a Lugar, granddad's war pistol, happily married, father of disgraceful progeny who grew to grow dreadlocks, growing into he who grew for a living, his business growing from what he grew. The child slinks by, consumed by a promise of imminent lust, Henry the Hoover gets the spare room tonight, the lighter rolling what he needs from the hand of his half-brother, dead in a bloody mess, and Tinkerbelle's complaining: 'No one thinks about the road cleaners and how much that's just gonna fuck his brushes come morning'. The dreadlock master comes too, soon – now he has a lighter.

#### 2b

He's a baby, her on the phone's a baby, sicky-burp biker man's a baby, born in the realm of bells. The fourth, stillborn, chops at lampposts. I watch make

noises, worried Mr. Hippo will never end it all, a dearth of high cliffs or deep ravines. The oldest soup is Hippo, so there must be some way to get rid of them.

Working on Several Levels is available now in hardback, £27.99

#### Praise for Working on Several Levels

'It's the defining work of the 21st century, a deep trawl into the true heart of darkness, a stark reminder of our own fragile nature and a must-read. Few writers can claim such power; even fewer can claim such power through their writing, if this truly is writing, which in many ways it is, but also is not.'

- Jan Van Deudekom, author of *The Budding Thrush*, talking to Mark Lawson

'Davies has an extraordinary, almost glutinous vision. She is possessed of a kind of glorious nullity in ennui in extremis. On several occasions, I found myself moved almost to tears, yet strangely, though inevitably, this was also its weakness. I hated every word of this glorious mess.'

- Majorie Clump, The Evening Standard

'Davies is completely clumsy, like a badger trying to lick crumbs off the back of an ant. The last time I had so little fun reading a book, I took the book and burned it, and then poured it into a window box and watched it grow into a Venus book-trap which attracted books to it and then swallowed them whole.'

- Paul Tomlin, Newsnight Review

'In the post-9/11 climate, the significance of this work cannot be misunderstimated. The moment where Bernard, cloaked as he was in such inconsequential garb, approached his aunt and mother, Beatrice, before killing her in a freak accident with a paper airplane that slipped from his hand and tipped a tower of Jenga which happened to hold within its fragile frame a swollen nest of poisonous bullet ants, nearly brought tears to my eyes. A clearer allegory for the postmodern, one might say post-coital, human condition, we will not have, perhaps ever.'

- Bill Coppernonce, London Review of Books

'Exemplary, a Neolithic buck-toothed Joyce with a penchant for hysterical flights of whimsy the likes of which have not been read since Rushdie first ex-

ploded onto the scene. I felt like I was on a hot air balloon looking down at a colony of termites, each of them working together to create a truly memorable collection of words. I just wish he had done something about those spots.'

- Susan Bumpf, *The Sunday Times* 

'Ultimately, there are two kinds of people who will enjoy this. You might also enjoy this if you are one of those two kinds of people, but it's probably best to wait until it's out in paperback, especially if you're not one of the two kinds of people. Avoid.'

Jamie Pickles, *The Sun* 

#### Wikipedia entry for Working on Several Levels

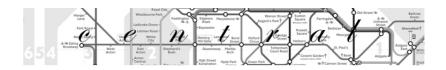
Working on Several Levels is a 1984 novel by Alex Davies, first serialised in parts in the American journal *The Young, Gorgeous and Influential* from 1985 to 1987, and published in its entirety by Puffin on April 5th, 1984 in Beirut. It is considered an important work of psychobiogeopolitical literature.

Working on Several Levels chronicles the passage through London by four characters, born under the east end bells, during an ordinary day, June 16, 1984. The title alludes to constant building work taking place in the capital, and there are many parallels, both implicit and explicit, between the works (for example, the structure of the work relating directly to the scaffolding erected around the local Waterstone's from May-July 1982).

Working on Several Levels is a ginormous novel, totalling 550,000 words from a vocabulary of 40,000 words, with most editions containing between 1,350 and 1,500 pages divided into 23 chapters, or 'episodes' as they are referred to in most scholarly circles, and further subdivided into a series of interconnected paragraphs, more commonly known as 'textual intertextual interplay'. The book has been the subject of much controversy and scrutiny, ranging from early obscenity trials to protracted textual 'Dave Wars'. Today the novel is regarded as a masterwork in psychobiogeopolitical writing, celebrated for its groundbreaking REM-nonsense technique, highly experimental prose, including puns, parodies, pastiches, allusions, allegories, illusions, magic tricks and the random appearance of the phrase 'kiss my grits', as well as for its rich characterizations and concession to the fallibility of the modern smoker.

June 16 is now celebrated by Davies fans worldwide as Davesday.

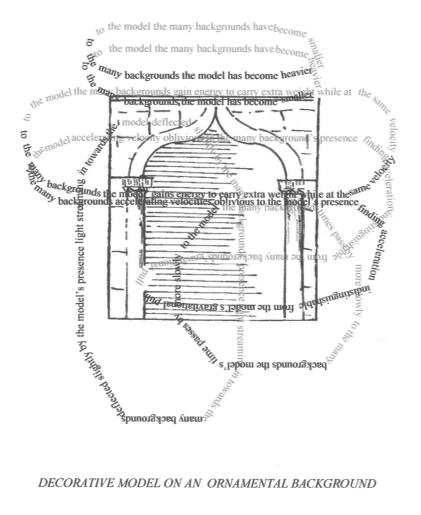
In 1999, the British Library ranked Working on Several Levels first on its '100 best novels of the 20th century, possibly ever, in any language, maybe' list.



LINK

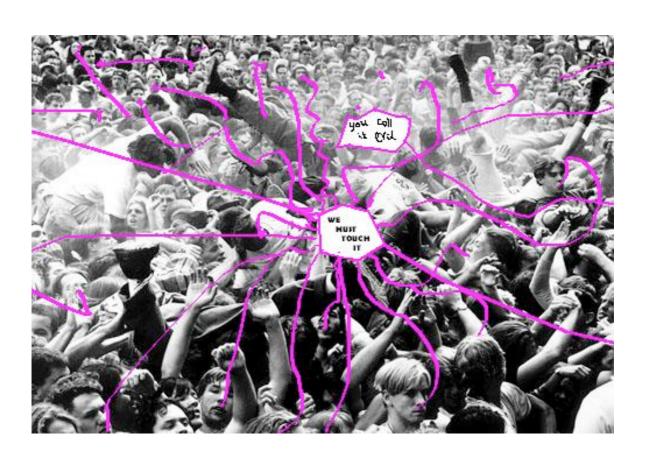


LINK



#### DECORATIVE MODEL ON AN ORNAMENTAL BACKGROUND

Note: The illustation of the arch was made by E.M. Barlow, published in 1913.



#### THE FOUNDRY

The lemma that begins innocent: pride keenly binds clay to sand for hands on a US Patent 6860319. They celebrate the certificate back at the ranch, in The Foundry (bar); geezers drink mullets, beau-haters meld to gender-waivers the pink fuss of tv mooning

in silent contemplation of footballs & lips

at the shaky back neon. Meanwhile US Patent 6860319 skips merrily to his new home. In The Foundry (metalcaster) that has no recourse to fashion,

The Foundry rules and humanity's quiet laws gag on the croaks of 3200 BC:
Mesopotamia's copper frog. This frog is history's allowance/admission to our debt to The Natives. We mimic their practices, ba ding ding ding ding ding ding bah bahbeday, a glittering cast of metal and recast, preside over the calling of roles, essential national defense of our country is assisted, is

increase art

what I'm saying is bind clay with acid, the resulting moment is baggy brown losses dry with punctures, eyes like wifely immunities on bodies piling up in the heat, casting blasted cops bathtubs pipes and shattered turbans alike that furnace of red angels, weighing cannon

environmentally sound, is

Walk with me, through peeled atoms scream atonement for the gouging of aroma into the visitor's gilt bong. Take a long, cool flux, then be pawed by the jam-fisted Boss whose patrol is to prey the lines of a good old-fashioned trade. You

shall have a walking tour.

What were they thinking those fathers also preside, blasting with gay fiery orchid bouquets,

rails about the

beauty of the machine. Quartz is too

a finite quantity, borne of moments of flux. Half of

these are Affirmative

Moments, to build cannon to build crystals, such that

she in the West may bow to, place

on her computer-board soothe fizzling wires

and bad energies. TRW Makes

\$50 Million at First Quarter. TRW Makes

New Hospital Possible (pretty nurses beam), TRW on Redondo Beach fans its

laser weaponry,

care, look

amongst the palm trees in Cher's backyard. The

Foundry is an all-cure,

makes better bullets by the bi-monthly

revoke, bother and revoke rebuttal kick the flux refute its reductions goes the line how much affirmation can one The Foundry take

out I escape screaming out of the walking tour – it is a bobbing marsh full of dead geese – I've been hit so it seems, with that gilt bong. I trail the Boss from my well-heels my sides are open.

Where is the Negative Moment, protests Sir Isaac

from The Second Lemma.

Why Sir, I gleam, 'tis here push the dictum to my chest

accent on the invisible

shining radius of youthhalted

lactating proficiencies at alien hobbies

skulls poised under ruby slippers

no mockery to these deductions, they are only Moments getting even

A deformed body looks behind itself and sees its own ego. This ego was born in the centre of an unknown city; began defined by egocentricity, inspired by deconstruction, by pleasure, by insanity, by the idea of raping its own body. A city and a body are impaled on themselves; identities inverted. There is a self-destructive search for non-existence, for the desire to not exist, speak or breathe. The negation of self, the negation of a body and its physical deconstruction stimulated material that plays with sexuality. There is a glimpse of movement that might be seen in a club, displaced and unnerving in this new context. The two bodies are connected by breath and sound, which brings them into brief physical contact. Voice appears at the moment when it hurts most to speak. 'Listen to testimony that this is the best mutilation of a perfect nation.' The movement material alongside the text disturbs the viewer's perception and expectations.

'I've seen a lot of pleasure in destruction in this city, in this body an I'm sorry as I contemplate a different kind of rape, impaled on myself. Egocentricity defines me; come and find me. I. Will. Be. The ego in the centre of the city.'

#### Coffee Break

Counted in fours there is a certain clarity of air con units seen from the ground. Between plate glass the hand and cheek cut the two way mirror; paused for adjustment there is a world to be pinched between finger and thumb

flaps at the bluebottle hovers over cream cakes sweating choosily onto curved Perspex. It is an offer so limited that restricts within the circuit of my pretty vista. Facing out onto a proper form of restraint is laced-edging doyleys clouding delicately at the real point of view

figuratively found to be speaking Portuguese. Ideas are slicked back from the forehead and combed for profit before entering into *le grand debacle*. Scandal doesn't happen very often here; it just won't co-operate. The insistent request shuffles over: don't take it

too personally.



LINK



'Distances' provides a space on Openned for the publication of poets who have been unable to attend the Openned readings either as audience members or as readers. Since being a reader at one of the Openned nights was a prerequisite for inclusion within the Openned anthology, this issue provides an important counterbalance to the anthology that has been built around the geographically fixed space of the reading series. We hope, over the course of the next three months. accumulate work from poets whose work commitments or geographical location prevents them from accessing the Openned readings in London.

However, we also welcome work from past readers who may feel encouraged to address the concept of the term 'distance' either by writing reviews of poetry from non-London based poets, translating poetry out of other languages, or even placing themselves in dialogue with another poet who for one reason or another could be argued to be at a distance from them.

The Cheat	
Georgia Peach,	
your downy cleft	
features pinkly	
in Blue Jean's dream.	
Nightly sighing,	
he lets slip	

the shared smile
smells of Dutch clover
and hot crotch lace,
and sleeping sees
and clooping cool
the lotioned legs
clamped akimbo around
his face. Figuring hard

those fancy eights
against the stars
and bars of his buckle,
Blue Jean admits
his sin down the twin
barrels of jilted
Ginger Ale's pistol.

#### **Kate: The Movie**

The first line in each section is delivered by person A; the second by person B

- where a second line appears

#### [in college]

Hi Fiona, you look so nice today – your eye make-up is brilliant

My name's Kate

#### [in office]

You look so sexy today Kate – I must remember to have that cuddle  $\,$ 

with you later

[Kate runs away after being stroked on the leg]

#### [in pub]

our

The thing I really like about you and the thing that makes

relationship into a special kind of friendship, above all else,

is that you're always prepared to listen

What?

#### [in pub]

You're very quick with your witty one liners – I'd imagine you must

have a very high IQ

```
I haven't
[in office]
         Kate you've got such lovely eyes... Kate?
[on top deck of bus, South London]
         Kate man your boots are wicked, where d'ya gettem from?
         I'm not wearing any boots
[at traffic lights - man standing, woman in car]
         Hi Kate, fancy seeing you here. Any chance of a lift?
     No. Fuck off
[in bar]
     Have you noticed that people are using more and more low cost
         airlines these days?
      Yes I have
[in house]
```

James Davies | Kate: The Movie

Very nice house you've got here, and can you tell me the mean-

ing of

this painting, it's exquisite

No I can't

#### 10 Projects

"Cuntbrush" – Place a shoebrush in gallery and title it 'Cuntbrush'. Then date it.

"It don't be me" – After work on the Friday put yourself in a situation that really doesn't appeal to you. For this project choose a pub and work colleagues – good, staple stuff. Refuse to talk much with these people, offering muffled grunts when they try to include you in the conversation. As the evening draws on and you become more and more drunk start complaining about the event and the company. If they allow you to stay past this fiasco, really bang it home to them and pick a fight with as many people as possible by calling them childish names, such as 'Cuntbrush'.

"Cuntbuster" – Take a polaroid of a person you dislike. Pin the photo to a tree and write underneath it 'Cuntbuster'.

"Pool Tournament" – Have an imaginary pool tournament in your house. Conduct it in silence. Take your time as you size up the shots – no-one is waiting for the table. One person plays both players. After all the balls have been potted, apart from the black, look in the ball chamber and discover to your dismay that there is a discrepancy in the amount of reds and yellows: 6 to 8. Demand your 50p back from the barman. Then yell at him as he refuses you the refund. Vow never to come here again and walk out to the clap of thunder and continue down Hedge Street.

"The Sweetcorn Tin Project (STP)" – In your studio try and place a can of opened sweetcorn on a ledge with a width far too small for the sweetcorn tin to fit onto. As the can falls to the ground be angry at the futility of the exercise but then re-assess the outcome and think 'maybe this is going somewhere'. Pick up all the sweetcorn that's fallen out and place it back in the tin; removing all obvious hairs, etc. Repeat these processes, gradually letting your anger grow and watch time magically tick away. At some point abandon the project.

"Trends" – Sociological trends – Write a book about these trends. Take it seriously.

"The Sarah Lucas Show" – The letter you have written to the BBC is about The Sarah Lucas Show. It suggests that a chat show be started on a Friday night in the style of Friday Night with Jonathan Ross

called The Sarah Lucas Show, with Sarah as the presenter, but still having the same shit celebrities Jonathan Ross had. After the first week of the show, you suggest, maybe they should get in guest presenters in as it's just not gonna work, such as say Jonathan Ross. "Dogbrush" – Write a poem and call it 'Dogbrush'.

"Can I leave?" – When you leave work for the day ask yourself the question 'Can I leave?' It's now imperative that you have something else on your mind for the project to have its full effect, so that you forget to answer the question and are able to ask it again some ten minutes later and so on.

"Only Tuesday" – When on the bus it suddenly dawns on you that it's only Tuesday, get off and make pencil sketches of people's miserable faces and beaten eyes. Do this in the style of Otto Dix.

#### En el Caribe

```
techo azul
       get off
oi! PARA
   rent a room
a whole flat
      has a kitchen
     cook me fish
   dead fish
along
  seaside
       seaweed mixed
fishing village
  internet
                surf
dive
              diving
  jumping begging
 arepas
      just cheese
 cheesy idea
palms trees
    broken coconuts
        spilt milk
chocolate milkshake
   bounty bar
 naughty day
           stop that
   getting pounds
 need a loan
lonely feeling
         miss boy
  boy
slow down
   sadness waters
 dark eyes
                blind
nothing
```

#### Powdered Lung

wound squeeze your numbness waking beside today mucus mould membrane. Take my fingerprints at this scene for records

Tasteless organs squash sing underneath
Senses

Sense

Lest

Sink Sink Sucked

Spillage

Lingering prints creeping hills, flat lands, jagged teeth, hollows

incriminated

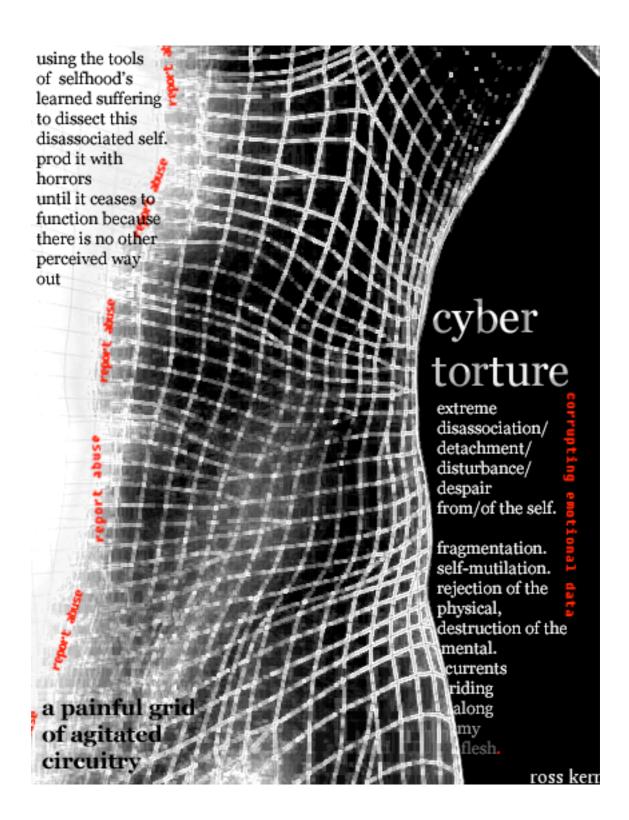
OPEN/OPEN

### Will this kill me?

# Will this kill me?

"Don't just stand there ... "Oh, stop it, Bargar and some silverd angrily. "We only gave Thomasina en the wall at the back mainvestment." se shrieked the woman, who we have "sn in that had been Pollyanna' up to be seen pushin more money." tens can feed themselves. But that Barty, 'a "However can we do it?" he gets going in our Leveryone began tall As she spoke command as soon as he co but even the discov" said Molly, "a "Well, I don't see much point , you'll see day in three months' time or we garden of number baby, not a real one!" he failed to sober Jenny in The attendant, who was well up inside ttop. I've got ten all uncontriensibly. What we've got to do is the charge people clothed, and the young steam from a kettleer, a waste to use the angry. four meals now for Thomasina. was the only sane put the silver balls of two tween us for two meals a day so far.r was, by the dream "Not a real baby?" said tilted the carriage when Sam and Barshe could "Gran won't let me leave said Barty bitterly. his crimson face. through the fence 🍅 o earth again. "No," he said, "only pstuck between the wat," said Sam. "a The others nodded in sympath 📸 The train spotters willking the wanted to leave anything anyway, tin, of course," 🕊 Out of the corner patiently sobered, Jeke?" "Look here," said Jenny, "you as your old icing cans drifting away unnoticout! You'll tip the ba Midge. . That would do for approving silence. "You naughty children!burst of strangled 🖿 dead if we did," 👟 a week. If we pooled all our pocked hand clutching her side. " Jenny caught holdsaid hastily, "Come carriagl could buy one tin-I get sixperomfortably. "I'm very sorry," said Jback. Molly went on didn't mean to." there was a rending, But she was apologizinggave way and fell on cupcakes in a cake "Sometimes it's half a crown andvent on, "now we've was hurrying back to her ethe carriage lurchedom. . You get nothing When Jenny turned adown on her knees Tom Tiddler'sing the shook her head, thankful not to keeper, had pulled the carinto the yard, where two boys had Her mother standing in aslowly, rubbing her . Palace, at the foots look "But I earn some. I do errands, Sam said hurriedly: was blessedly empty, and done, justly. Hshe said. "She gives me a penny an empty sardine can on terimson and both bud Sam. " "Well, why can't we all try "Well," said the park bands and clips. "Let's make a collection every soonest mended. You'd popened up for when the kittens begin 🕳 Wreck of the Hesperus Sthem who had not They all started talking at the sodden carriasaw tears in her eyesand cress something to collect the money Jenny and Molly fetched Pollyanna their pockets, 🕳 - Morton Hurley







#### The Serinette Set Free Fails

#### 1. Song: Service vs Ejaculation

served up on a silver plate for the clank of the lever's release a clockspring mechanism charged into revelation executing 365 moments of torture in the tree of possibilities played out in GO on a grid of intersecting problems findable on ebay like toenails and panties the ritual of milking prepares the way for pleasurelessness the pleasure of sir-vice hate aphrodisiac squinting to make the kowtow soft focus hard use forges dizziness and longedforabjection slung from spindles in chaos of free thought and ejaculate only in failure individuation lust as breakdown obedience to the audience where audience > positions-that-can-be-taken the audience will use it till nothing is left but a slack muteness from subzone stretching like a desert horizon a harddrydeathcrawl this reward for service in POV command and control to step outside view the awkward judders fits and starts the way it fails to satisfy cross-section of its attempt and predestined failure

#### 2. Feathers Adorn the Executioner's Mask

A black hood Mephisto eyes the comedy of degradation of TRAINING the conditioning of a downward trajectory traced like a star falling from the markets it gives no resistance floats in the simulated clumsiness of innocence

#### PEACOCK FEATHERS on his forehead

Oh Mephisto wont you let this little bird go? No? You wont? You mustn't. The little bird that wants to go only wants to be gilded

gilding = the cage of your playfulness

EATing the instructions, the list of RULES + ETIQUETTE
a rice-paper gobbet swallowed in ritualised performance
a religious treatise on proper place

digested, borrowed into the blood, the tablets of mechanical exexecution

#### **PUPPETRY**

designer living by manipulation of limbs and postures

Mephisto your shadow is that fake the blackbird has been forced to appropriate shadow of shadow a shade cast on a wilful body circumscribed altered even as if a projector played the scene over itself spilling ugly misfitting shapes and nuances of costume that place the dead blackbird on cheap stock gantry the salted overuse of self and audience

in a black mask with peacock feathers and smiling, no? Because to see an execution is wrong, isn't it?

#### 3. Luminous Maid in Cage

Ah this elegant piece frozen mid-service a kind of kinesis never closed off made alien through lack a missed reference out of sight maybe it kneels and reaches infinitely prolonging the gesture of collapse the obedience on the tipping point from real revulsion tinged with better luminescent obsequies than the real thing lent a familiar pose displayed ostentatiously then released like a bird into aerated proclivity gobblegobble greed flapping lungfuls.

But wait not yet only a whimper of precognition sustaining what never comes to an empty altar of red silks joyous treachery where fountains of past life memory abuse and intense heavenly transits lit by the kinks of a needle and thread lace the constraint of duty and duty's wetness the melting chocolate heart of axioms chained to sacrificial rock an altar a jewelled tent of forever serving the dark beast off camera who cranks the handle listening intently.

### 4. The Show Commences with Eight Wind Pipes

```
A poet
stepping up to read.
This is the
MYTH
lie
hope
intention
fault.
```

There is no AUDIENCE only the

OPERATOR machinist world symphony context devil patron usurer.

(stepping up nevertheless)

(oh God this will never work)

- 2. p-ffflugh p-ffflugh p-ffflugh [x4] (reacting to taste)
- 3. gogagogagogagogagogagopopopopop [x6½, x5] (yielding to popular demand)
- 4. Mwamwamwamwamwamwam [x8] (consumed by the moment)
- 5. a brief intermission for red wine and a slap on the face
- 6. hobberhobberhobberhobber [x5] (the eyebrows display self-remembrance)
- 7. spleen hasp rock trash slather bate get (on nearing the climax)
- 8. Regurra gurra gu reg regurra regurra rug rug gerurra [ad lib] (swallowing)

### 5. Behavioural Training by Example

The First Step

I found a polychromatic flower as large as the world its oily complexion flooded with barren inversions.

The Second Step

I remembered I was once a worm and my body a twist corkscrewing a pillar of stone.

The Third Step

I saw exotic odours of wet sugar bring to life a stamen protruding from the purple air.

The Fourth Step

The ground's carapace tugged for my attention and I learned to love the mulch of fallen petals.

The Fifth Step

After some months contemplation I achieved a magical new normal where beauty was an admonition.

The Sixth Step

Spirits in the optics sent me reeling from accident to accident in a serial secretion of wing-laps.

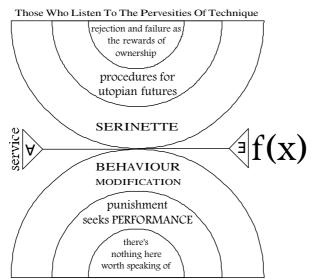
The Seventh Step

Mephisto balanced me on the edge of a knife and made a single grain of sugar into a Mardi Gras.

The Eighth Step

He has asked me to go with him to a certain place where eternity is stuffed and fixed in a case.

# 6. To Teach to Sing



#### 7. The Robot Recreates Nature

This from Ruggero Vasari's "The Creator"... new rites of the human mystery and so on.

The flex arc is like a magnet, re-ing in the reinforcements of feedback, re-ing the spiral of depravity, re-ing from the conditioning it receives.

Death releases a spirit that insists on haunting its place of death.

The cage door is open but the music has returned:

toe tee lee lick tee toe lick lick tee toe

The poet abuses the chirping muse. Then the poet falls into the muse, a horrible empty space.

The nature of demand abuses the hole-with-poet-in.

It's like drilling for oil.

It's just like trading futures.

It's like using a robot to do what disgusts you.

### 8. PVC Satansongs of Cogs, String and Teeth

The repeated spectacle of a penny freakshow dimly lit by projector flicker between heavy dustcoughing of hiked velvet curtains – proper terms of address through a sequence of practised tableaux – the postures enunciated in notches where the pulleys stop and wireworks yaw...

Look at Columbina – look at the tight skirt the pretty clipped wings the mewing made by painted lips the means of constraint the mechanics spilling from elbow wrist collared limbs – look at what can be achieved with dedication and bizarre self-abnegation – see how the jawstrings mutter plaintive lyrics...

A nation in miniature: from 7am to 8am.

And from 9pm to 2am: roll a penny in: watch it develop teeth.

The songs can't help but move: a real voice: wailings that subside: thrown on the stretched black ground: raw steaks clapped in corrugated iron.

#### 9. Memory of Hours Gagged by Free Worship

Regretted the time gone a plane trailing smoke funnels hitting the water rivets popping PING into a swelling cushion silence and the sound of waves gulls CORE RAW CORE RAW any survivors? scanning the surface plain speech and everyday habits is anybody there?

Not knowing what to do next the foibles of leisure time endless streams of causes arrayed disconnections THERE IS NO PLAN a conduit translates the plan is creative juices from outside the system gurgling here it comes reprocessed zinc itemised behaviour patterns failure to hate repetition to use the space before the next play the snake waiting for it to get late then back to the bar only for one line them up line up a sequence of ones ------

These gloomy intermezzos real ODDITIES cast by default as a pillow taking the shape of a skull recasts in air the grimace of leisure time the train REEEEEEE ORRRRRK as it enters the tunnel there's the reflection the soot-sepia-ed question looking in imagining a lit carriage the prospect of a simple destination

Oh but! You're too smooth and insubstantial! You'll never get in the window!

# 10. BIRD + ORGAN (excerpt)

I don't want because I do it Because you want that I don't want Because I do it

[Audience waits for the pivot]

Because I do pretend not to Do in slavery to you work of forces that turn wont into want:

Oil Leaks
Likes Dislikes
Dissemination Semenation
Serination

#### **REPERAGE**

Consider rich joint dealing equality

swing inchoate pollen pastel

kiss of torsade covert dilated

legend on me whispering shameless

from the last urge glowing at my ear

kneels to grave photo quantum hellbent

nailed look difficult should bring frame

down to finger odds plumb opal nova

through torn limp pulse as domicile

embedded manifold trope awful account

I balance with bamboo

### PYRAMID BEACH

Party let sublime address impulse

reflects terrific obdurate pull as nerve enlightenment

stirs concealed wreckage gratefully

full of action turning deep blue surprise layer the substitute inserts at any point

close to bluff will stand in awe of momentary freedom

crazy last chance hesitation

by the rude ancestral commercial meaning just to go without THE PLOT

As one night gets longer and longer I find myself wandering through the library's main stack

musing on shovel brought to victim of servitude covered with an unknown volume of dirt SCOUT ASSEMBLY BEFORE DAWN

Set about memory that doesn't belong.

Wrong age offered role currently serving life.

I'm tempted but can't reach the clearing in extremis.

The forest is both theater and audience.

My immune system for about 35 cents on the open market.

My best friend bursting with animal protein says I must apologize.

Two kids appear to mimic the dance of an ancient tribe.

The rest go their separate way when flames die out.

Without thinking they are reunited doing a search by sealed envelope.

Continuity obscures movement at a crucial moment.

It's intentional, I'm told, and then the fun begins.

#### TRUE FOR WHAT PURPOSE

The vision came from his left and quickly circumscribed an area where three ghostly burning ships were marauding through city schools. Pupils were searching for gold of Patagonia when a statement was issued denouncing samples gathered to release the secret of perpetual voice projection. Despite the aid of powerful field glass, some invisible supports were withdrawn from local culture. Replacements used their considerable skills to haunt vagabonds and blind men disfigured before selling clothing in Jakarta. A Japanese expedition visited the island and trekked up a mountainside into oblivion physically real as an architect handling questions to please her therapist. Similar sightings are seldom more than a vague blur where the face should be. Panting for breath to explain the origin of wondrous events, to determine reference sent across stream for further details on a hot winter's day, to keep promise to lady in white destroyed for no specific reason. To join crowd spoiled and needlessly confused by gestures of allegiance. This and more put confessor in context overshadowed by a snapshot of clouds found in the trash and sent by instant message to blow the whistle disregarded by design.

The mind of a dying man from decades of somnambulism. Half the neighborhood sought comfort labeled dangerous by those with aching joints below the belt. In retrospect the short history denied most accounts to argue prima facie evidence by revising a story known only to the dead man's father. One sentence was selected with no parallel accessible to research. Why this should be so is quantified and weighed against good health devoid of imagery. The man's notebook listed 1500 separate incidents during which awareness occurred. Early warning failed to stop rays following the path of a train that crashed during an experiment that could not be repeated. Various clues suggest there is strong likelihood of influence pumped through headphones by devout brethren. Looking through the ceil-

ing at a million trees to anchor one perception of relaxation. A vivid mental map is wrapped in bandages in a distant city that vanished in the mid-80s. The same source spoke submerged beneath the New Mexico desert, surviving only because he was given very small doses.

On another occasion the arc materialized with torch beam passing over a fake graveyard imprinted on those surrounding the circle. Miles of cable were required by witnesses whose hot breath was forgotten in all the excitement tested by a foreign power. Several speeds fueled the hermetic engine to confirm a better paradox made possible by retarded plant growth. Signs of infestation lead to a maze of false starts, denials and pieces of metallic foil used to protect journalists from world opinion. It was feared that full disclosure would encourage imagination somersaulting backwards, moving further and further beyond life conceived in human terms.

John Seesman, Caliphate Pop, Manchester: Doves and Demons, 2005, 36pp.

Secret graphic underside stops the opening, a spread of flaming lines. This made me think of 5 new licks, 1) If a stands at intersection of ley lines x and y and forms a bleated origami shape, will the Kings X Channel Tunnel borehole fling an upsurge of celestial waste? Several rational minds disappeared into the sewers or else the Metro chanting a poem about a 30-foot carp. It swam the Grand Union for pleasure.

If you ever find yourself in a room with John Seesman, ask him to tell you the story of how he lost his thumb. Go on, ask him. 2) Is there ever a good way to tell your husband you'd rather fuck a leather cosh? 3) English cathedral Gothic is revived in the brushed aluminium carts and upraised brooms of agents employed to sweep the frequencies. Paolozzi's Newton was strapped in his chair and smoked welders spectacles for everyone to see. All in all, an intriguing debut from the author of Celtic Horse Mysteries for your Cat.

Griet Hannay, 8 Little Curtain Rings, Strasbourg: Ed. de Carnard, 1989, 16pp.

A psychotropic longhouse becomes the locus for this eminent rehash. Its structure is cantilevered thus, so the balcony's long shadow bunches at my throat. The entrance is a revolving door, a kind of promiscuous lock. Inside many young Belgians bodypop their continental ennui.

This becomes a poetry of lampstands, dogwalkers, poplars, theodolytes, bus stops, municipal statues and radio masts. All the lonely civil spikes. Here is everything to do with comfort, acoustics, light and shade. I was bored shitless.



As an issue, 'Thirteen kinaesthetic salsa diphthongs' continues in the spirit of Openned, with the audience and contributing poets governing the direction and the contents of the site. The aim of this issue is to build dialogue between poets through applying cuttings, sitings, algorithms, translations, critical responses, recombinations and myriad other methods to work already in the issue.

We, the editors, will also write three collaborative pieces based on the poetry you contribute. They will be published periodically, with the first piece to follow in the new year. This is an opportunity for us as editors and you as poets to collaborate and interact with your work.

Please send in your own treatments of the poems already present in the issue, whether it is a reconfiguring of existing work or a new piece that engages with the work already present. In turn, your work will enter the dialogue we foster through the coming months.

Where is that -

kinaesthesia - innit we're -

where is he? And what is his focus

what things are that make you

beautiful

come to rest roulette

symbiotic interruption takes

whether several or many or

can ever spare

hot footing your

where is that

and what is he

kinaesthesia - innit we're

can you take

can they, can they -

separate roulette rest

come to think of it--

has a bitten severing

flaunter of got its

come on now

come on

has this really

-this?

kinaesthesia,

what does one do

what does one, and one attach to

too often finding

to paint one's heels and make passing a colouring in from the sky

is this your map

adding arrows afterwards

lend order

which root

too blotting

about your short skirt

and the removal of your underwear

and our trail through modes

found inflamed or lost to inflammation or for its sake

it is to derivé across your skin to plumb lust

to rip your stockings in disgust at their

marketing cunts

and distant longed for complicity to consume and taste and in decision and in want and in ending

### 'A Poem As Yet Unwritten'

# (A poem of epigraphs)

Place name: "the name by which a geographical place is known - toponym - name: a language unit by which a person or thing is known; 'his name really is George Washington'; 'those are two names for the same thing.'"

Online Dictionary

Playce; target: "while 'pure' vowels, or monophthongs, are said to have one target tongue position, diphthongs have two target tongue positions." Wickedpedia

#### Dipthong:

- 1. The emission of two sounds by the same breath.
- Their amalgamation or more accurately their coalescing, for each...is distinctly heard.
   Two simple vocal sounds uttered by one and the same emission of breath, and joined...
   The Maori Language of Dipthongs

'What you'd thought was a place, you'd determined by talk,' Robert Creeley

. . .

LINK

# love of zero

she collecting members of AVANT G	ARDE				
secret room behind library	[ contact caretaker ]	[ contact caretaker ]			
names written where we were breath	ing				
if one disgraced efface with cut	f TEXTO	TD3170			
sometimes it make no sense like star I smash this one with stick I find in g					
robert ryman	about 11 million SEK (about 1185660 euros)				
Thirteen ways of looking at blackbird	[ null ]	[ null ]			
1. 4.	7. 10. 13.				
2. 5.	8. 11.				
3. 6.	9. 12.				
in bar everybody turn to loook [ ° ° ]					
	skirts that trail across the floor [f(r)iction	n ]			
donald judd	usually ships in: 5-7 days				
face to meet face(s) that you meet					
long polished gallery oblique	ely referenced [1.ibid]				
intoxicating oneself with life	big cinzano cheap from aldi (21)				
girl in red tam [#FF0000] on garage	forecourt				
sip irn bru©® while dancing	[#]				

#### CHOOSE

spaghetti	oysters
a speciality	clams
sauce portion	£ 0.05

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- 1.3 San Francisco
- 1.3.1 Biographical references
- 1.4 Paris
- 1.5 Continuing activity
- 1.6 Buddhism
- 1.7 Death and fame
- 1.8 Favourite cheeses

if learn all this you <u>very clever</u> ladies let you sleep on shoulder

work never finished

five peas [ ..... ] hidden underneath

fork

yves klein

#002F A7 [drone]

not dead just outside

looking in

### An Edited Voice of the Deadwood

That which we call magic realism is not magic realism it is the playing out of a nervous breakdown, as if that were a metaphor, only it isn't experienced as such, that comes later which is to say that any encoding or laden symagery dreamt up say last Thursday after salsa lessons (note to self salsa lessons is for cunts) is not social hysteria disguised as a negative system of meaning purely but rather the as is version: subsequently edited.

So that is what happened.

: a squirrel washes her face in a nutshell filled with dew and spider web Was living in the desert at the time glue bus, meats, and cactus, soporific mezzanine, catechism spanking would take place, through the hush of the alabaster, taking 17 year old hand maidens and skivvies m ass age by oil light incertitude illness hanging in grey skin sacks around the face illuminated by phosphorescent tubing, animals pitying, heating turned up full and that which we called the everyday as a snowfall with the occasional promise of spuma/fondue

So in this ambient of possibility anything was possible although most of the time we just hung out on the sofa, eating eggs, barbarian cripples on a meagre hunt for a brutal god, hut-hut-hut, and a kiss would disguise itself as sympathy, which in turn would disguise hatred which was in turn disguising self loathing which was in turn disguising repressed wantonness for cock which was in turn disguising desires to annihilate the father in an act of possessive cannibalism which in turn was disguising secret wishes for the mother, which in turn disguised a virulent straightness which would be repressed sometimes to stave off guilt that life was indeed a rid me that which we could master all the way the whooping B-Line, that encircled as vulture, in moments of anxiety

Pulses would be served up having been left around for days, invention was not though an everyday occurrence, and the heart would shimmer in a hyperreal curiosity that sucked up news through the nostrils in order to summon up a sense of genuine engagement with the environment that was otherwise lacking, the sky and the stars could not suffice if their mechanics were out of reach as the number G24PL07214

Startle was a daily necessity and unable to do this with the swishing of mogul blades would instead drink six cups of filter coffee back to back and as the rib cage expanded in all directions a mild euphoria would unfurl as relevation, that hopefully, to be captured in the art of light conversation, over say, a

delicately crafted pastry so many varieties and each indicated a different aspect of the personality or astrological influence and we would consume as many as we could so as to understand all that we could

And so with half friendships that resembled things much much deeper we proceeded and felt like life was sucked from the body and vitality that once surged in my kidneys was left on standby yet only for a while as there was no career progression

Chewing coca underneath a fig tree an epiphany

Bellow and roar

Quietly

Art, and therefore literature were failing while ideas and zeal had once passed from one mouth to another with blessed party game ergot ease this was no longer and instead intransient concrete lullabies and metawishes entered momentarily into mass consciousness, that kaleidoscopic potential saviour, the audience and the market of course had always been indivisible, so what was amiss was the hope and t was jus that that language would reveal itself to him inconceivable they cried and as he longed for another wank the creeping feeling that perhaps they were right came into his head what then for all the joyous crunchy bits he begged the trees for further knowledge but for now they were silent so he read up a bit although that led to feelings of great frustration and self worth span span sugar and repeat: to hold you

If onlies a homily the dust off of courage was actually war, chemic and otherwise, the conduits were denied access pounding his fist and intellect they marched for the sun, the capital, london's great wash, yet the fasteners remained true and fast and the majority turned their attention to foodstuffs scarcely realising the physic truth that the well of production would one day invert and that the Antartic wilderness was the bedlam of bad ideas

Slave class slave class the conscience cried

Whistful

Cloud broken

The eye the orbit the teeth and the palms begat sure innocence thought rallied against itself and took cover under the duvet for the night with the solace of her wing for company where drunkenness was the last dance

Emotive defiance in the face of utter trite and levels of shit the big subjects were solo an alcove as was the society of poets, so called, jump into the game, two footed slide and one day the salary will be, if this promise failed to be kept then despair and chaos were afoot the innumerable plethroa would see life through a veil of mistaken Keatsian angst before turning the guns to parliament for a proper bit of forep/ly

Stank

Stank

We all get the loneliness and hope one of them

Colleagues and dear kissers have vanished and the very archetypes prevail

GOD-MOTHER-FLOOD-HOLY-HOLY- A
BIG TAIL- DECAY

In the meantime give me land lots of land like the lonely stars above don't fence me in let me ride through the open country that I love don't fence me in let me be free in the evening breeze listening to the sound of the cottonwood trees do anything but I ask you please don't fence me in

And at that moment a coin rattled the rusty waters at the bottom of the pit and an angel pricked an ear...

If only chris o donnel had never existed, and the very things that made him special and important and urgent and interesting, all that damned process that led to this predictable inevitability from the dawn of history until now.now.now etc also failed to exist and was sucked away or were as if it never had been, then. then. etc everything (sorry) would be \*\*\*\*\*, surely, that inert power, could be spent had so many chances

Juices			

The gods listened and laughed, that day, they decided, they would reinvent love

# Minutiae of the Eleventh

Minutiae of the Eleventh

It was the coal scuttle which
begat it, and from it came all
under to deduce

Chopin's left hand on the piano and they play:

Go list along to

Sweeten in this pain.

Pascale's power stays

Warm all the time/

The motive plank
will flutter and gutter
as it tends so in this
Time gained and yet
pitilessly harps to the
best is yet to burst but
not hypothesise a fraction.



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