

(Five Poems): 'Cistern 1'; 'Cistern 2'; 'Flit'; 'I thought that things improve'; 'The Vacuous Twat'

EARNSHAW, Steve <<http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1048-8022>>

Available from Sheffield Hallam University Research Archive (SHURA) at:

<http://shura.shu.ac.uk/23069/>

This document is the author deposited version. You are advised to consult the publisher's version if you wish to cite from it.

Published version

EARNSHAW, Steve (2018). (Five Poems): 'Cistern 1'; 'Cistern 2'; 'Flit'; 'I thought that things improve'; 'The Vacuous Twat'. *Angry old man: A magazine of experimental art and poetry* (5).

Copyright and re-use policy

See <http://shura.shu.ac.uk/information.html>

Flit

if a dozen subjunctives were here
to listen. Listen! If this

were all, this flitting from
to side to side

Cistern 1

‘The acid-bath of truth’, writes Pursewarden
somewhere, a comminatory note
sent from the purlieus
of a de Sadean garden,
us manumitted, released from our anglo-saxon
into the porphyritic dusk –
God ever the humourist in this city
of the fragrant hero, fourth volume,
unwritten - fringeing the interlinear,
dusting the catamites with purpureal light
in a slow, cistern-drip of oneiric desuetude.

Cistern 2

I have a relation with the cistern.

I am in relation with the cistern.

I have a relationship with the cistern.

The cistern and I have a relationship.

The cistern and I, we have a relationship.

To the cistern?

There is a relationship *to* the cistern?

I feel a going out, *towards* the cistern and its noise.

The relationship is between the cistern, myself, and the noise.

I can't fix the cistern forever,
I can just turn off the noise of the overflow
as the valve doesn't close properly
and the water continues to flood into the
relationship
the sound of a dripping relationship.

So this is what it is like to be stated between all things.

I thought that things improve

I see time's mackerel grey beneath the pool
of mackerel grey beneath the pool of mack
erel grey us see the time of mackerel grey
beneath the pool of time of grey and back
beyond before the time itself began
to track the ticks and tocks of cellular clocks
that lead to fishes, birds brightly coloured
as if the core of time exploded time
once time was overwounded Catherine wheel
from which the human heart extruded steel
of mackerel grey among brightly coloured
joy.

The Vacuous Twat

I went into the wrong toilet
Twice

That epiphany of frozen cars

You don't vote

You vacuous twat