

ADVANCED IMMORALITY

PHILIP TERRY

ADVANCED IMMORALITY

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if p then q classics

40 Cranbourne Road, Old Trafford, Manchester, M16 9PZ

www.ifpthenq.co.uk
ifpthenq@fsmail.net
0161 872 5486

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To Ann and Lou

ADVANCED IMMORALITY

Grey moon

Grey sun

Black hole

Angular anonymity

Brown weed

Weak plastic

Dim foreground

Crude language

Untrimmed hedges

Dwarf chickens

Cornered field mouse

Haphazard wrens

A cat

purrs

under the table

A brief twittering

in the air

slowly

fades

White moon

Green Adonis

White dwarf

Angular anonymity

Sentient foot

Radiant foot

Light foot

Unsuspecting foot

Unmarked foot

Unmarked foot

Unmarked foot

Defacing foot

Sticky tar

Crushed bones

Muted cover-up

Illiterate foot

Yesterday's

erudite

chickens

betray

the iron rivers

to permafrost

and wilderness

Dangling rope

Rising pepper

Resident dog

Betraying foot

Colourful pensioners

Crossbred pigeons

Silenced ducks

Sexed animals

Tinny whistles

Steady hatred

Staple fodder

Equilateral holidays

Improper nicknames

Opaque surnames

Legitimate first names

Divergent deaths

The trilobite

lies fixed

under the clay

On top of

the stump

herbs

wither

Silenced whistles

Tinny hates

Steady ducks

Old-fashioned consonants

Molten butterflies

Unadorned power cuts

Silent mists

Sympathetic glances

Rectangular moths

Precise lines

Glistening soil

Isolated glances

Virgin bushes

Swaying branches

Dressed leaves

Urbane glances

There is more oil

beneath the soil

but the tanker

of sweet intoxicants

comes home slowly

by rail

at dawn

Stagnated woods

Unified ranges

Smooth lakes

Sympathetic glances

Cultivated wheat

Rough ruby

Feathery gorse

Nearby town

Damaged worm

Opaque sapphire

Black laburnum

Navel caves

Still darkroom

Invisible silk

Feathery gorse

Nearby town

The air raid shelter

in the back garden

is never there for long

The temple's foundations

are rotten

the worshipper bare

in the palpable still air

Feathery wheat

Rough ruby

Cultivated gorse

Disembodied laburnum

Alert deserts

Scorched wastelands

Arid plains

Persistent drought

Dying roots

Desiccated seeds

Deluded buds

Alert deserts

Red streams

Open combat

Settled dust

Persistent forgetfulness

Reaching

the special tank

the metal sinks

towards gleaming

You mustn't

fall into

the acid bath

Purple stilts

Camouflaged tanks

Horizontal bullets

City in mourning

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