

EPIGRAPHS

if p then q sampler

CHRISSY WILLIAMS

EPIGRAPHS

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if p then q classics

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Chrissy Williams is a freelance editor who lives in London. She is joint organiser of the Poetry Book Fair. She has an MA in Modern and Contemporary Poetry and has worked in educational and children's publishing, videogames magazines and most recently at the Poetry Library. This is her fifth pamphlet. Her pamphlet *Flying into the Bear* (HappenStance Press, 2013) was shortlisted for the Michael Marks Awards. Two of her other pamphlets were created in collaboration with artists, and she runs an informal poetry and comics workshop in south-east London. chrissywilliams.blogspot.co.uk

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The first five epigraphs in this sequence previously appeared on *Horizon Review* and in the anthology *Adventures in Form* (Penned in the Margins, 2012)

“Gather ye rosebuds while ye may”
‘To the Virgins, to make much of Time’
Robert Herrick

“Every night I cut out my heart, but in the morning it was full again.”
Count Almásy, *The English Patient*
Michael Ondaatje

“I like my evil like I like my men — evil.”
Buffy, 4:9 ‘Pangs’, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*
Joss Whedon

“Realize that the grieving process will not take forever.
Time will eventually feel [sic] all wounds including this death.”
‘How to Mourn the Death of a Dog’, eHow.com
@luyoung

“I see dead people.”
Cole Sear, *The Sixth Sense*
M. Night Shyamalan

“Though they sink through the sea they shall rise again”
‘Death Shall Have No Dominion’
Dylan Thomas

“It’s just not something you ever expect to have to say on air:
‘removing the head or destroying the brain’. Extraordinary.”
Jeremy Thompson, *Shaun of the Dead*
Simon Pegg & Edgar Wright

“I hear and I forget.
I see and I remember.
I do and I understand.”
Confucius

“They, astonished, all resistance lost,
All courage; down their idle weapons dropt.”
Book VI, *Paradise Lost*
John Milton

“Marge, I haven’t learnt a thing.”
Homer Simpson, 6:112, *The Simpsons*
Greg Daniels

“If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again.”
Popular idiomatic expression

“We joined the Navy
to see the world.
But what did we see?
We saw the sea.”
‘We Saw the Sea’, *Follow the Fleet*
lyrics by Irving Berlin

“How huge it is, how empty, this great space for which I have been longing all my life.”
Charles, *The Sea, The Sea*
Iris Murdoch

“There was no probability of finding Land in these high latitudes”
Sunday 6th February 1774, *The Journals*
James Cook

“I mudlarked there for hours”
Blaise, *Shad Thames, Broken Wharf*
Chris McCabe

“The youth had to dip himself in the water also, and was changed into a small sea-hare”

‘The Sea-Hare’

Brothers Grimm

“We now insist that a poem is a distinct linguistic event, a transformation
of whatever elements may have ignited it.”

‘Introduction’ to Goethe’s *Selected Poems*

Christopher Middleton

“These poems are written in parable.”

from a speech on writing poetry

Robert Frost

“An Englishman, an Irishman and a Rabbi walk into a bar.

The Rabbi says, ‘I’m in the wrong joke.’”

UK joke

“With great power there must also come -- great responsibility!”

Spider-Man’s Uncle Ben, *Amazing Fantasy #15*

Stan Lee

“Here is the paper which bears his name upon it as well as mine.”
Heston Aerodrome, 30th September 1938
Neville Chamberlain

“So - if, on your way to work, you stumble into a coffin being
pulled out of a funeral parlour -- is that like a bad omen? #worried”
tweet by @keimiller, 6/6

“Black milk of daybreak we drink you at night
we drink in the morning at noon we drink you at sundown
we drink and we drink you”
‘Death Fugue’, (trans. Michael Hamburger)
Paul Celan

“As a matter of cosmic history, it has always been easier
to destroy than to create.”
Spock, *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*
Gene Roddenberry

“Live life like you’re gonna die.
Because you are.”
‘You’ll Have Time’
William Shatner

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