

BlazeVOX 11

Winter 2011

Jim Bennett

'sə:tʃɪŋ fɔː, fə a dɛfɪ'nɪʃ(ə)n

thoroughly scrutinizing in a disconcerting way
affecting, with regard to, or in respect of
to; towards

exact statement or description of the nature,
scope, or meaning of something

take the urinal from the wall
place it on the floor

an advert, a brochure
a piece of text

discover or perceive by chance or unexpectedly
the expression of feelings and ideas given intensity
by the use of distinctive style and rhythm

erasing Wordsworth, Strongin and civilisation

I was happy drafting in a notebook
when I saw daffodils driftless
despite Hubble captured twinkle on the Milky Way
radioactive. never-ending margin

but now I host daffodils others
 brought to our ward

I gazed -- and gazed -- but little thought
 the land swallowed the sound of death
is a shake and a rush

and the rolling wooden cart of book and orderlies
 fairytale flame waves beside them danced

doctor's white lab coat blown open
 lift my grammar to the high blue
 mark my margins with despair

the bliss of solitude
 rescue after search

then pleasure
 and dance
 and the daffodils

 the looseness of life
 at the end of civilisation

Subliminal instructions received when taking tabs in London 1968

tab 1

fire instruction
fire alarm
fire escape
mind your head
way out
watch the gap
vehicles at work
road slippery underfoot
mind your head
way out

fire the person who
paints the instructions
fire is alarming
at the best of times
fire escapes
through the smallest gaps
mind your head
and find the way out
watch the credibility gap
vehicles only work sometimes
watch the road
when you are wearing slippers
and mind your head
in case you fall
you are having too much fun
I am sure it must be illegal now
leave yourself a way out
always
leave yourself a way out

Tab 3

fire
alarming
escape gap
watch the tarmac
walking nude
except for slippers
through green park at midnight
too much
mind your head

way out
way way out

Tab 4

f.....i.....r.....e.....