

London Poems

Martin Gubbins

LONDON POEMS

2001-2003

Martín Gubbins

Writers Forum



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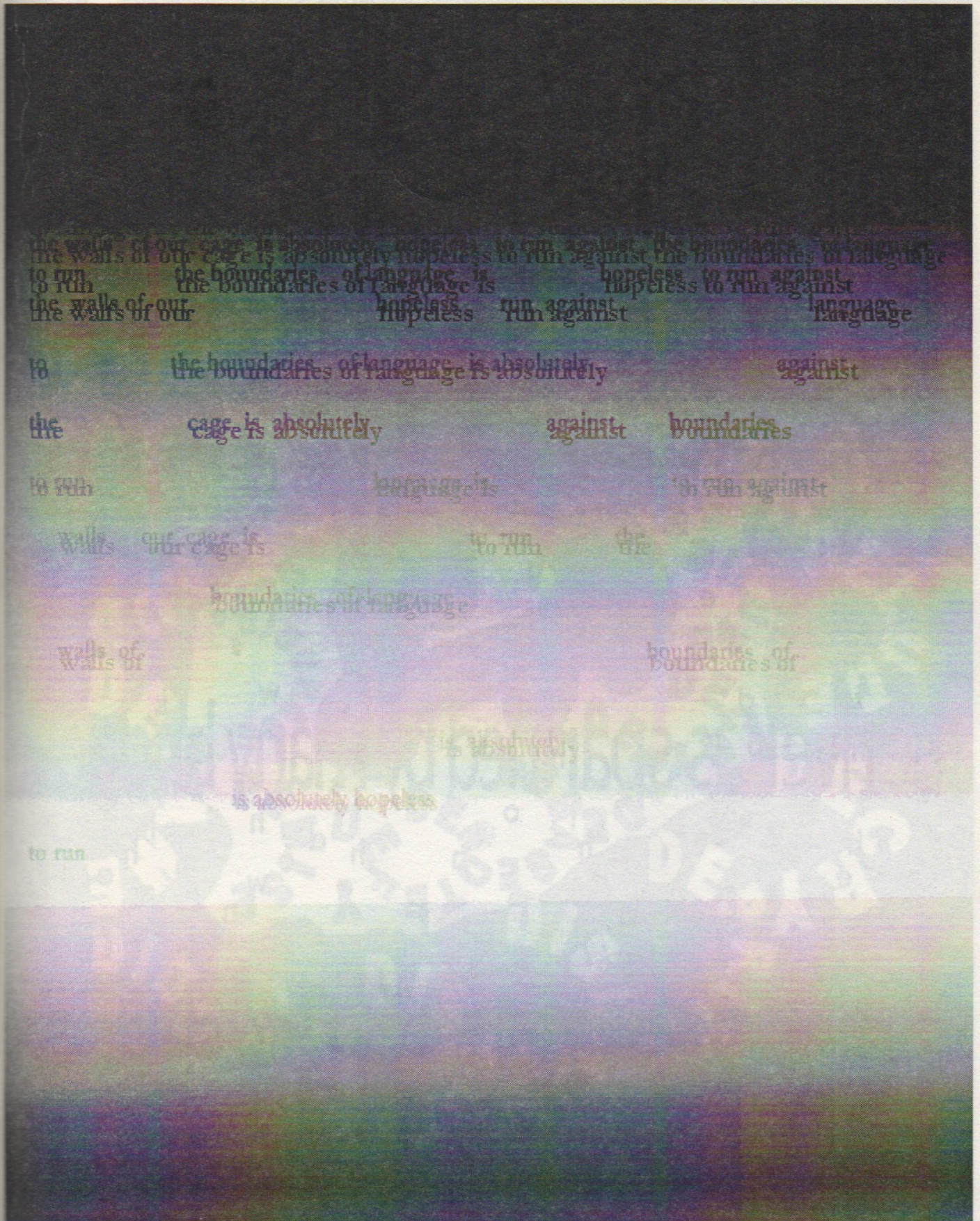
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Writers Forum
32 / SM2 5HP

Author's note: Many of these poems have previously appeared as pamphlets independently published by the author in London between 2002 and 2003. Additionally, the author acknowledges the following magazines for having published these works: *Bridge-Building*, *roundabout*, *Transport System* and *Photo Labs*, first published by London Under Construction, London, June 2003. *111 Adjectives for 3 Voices* and *s~a~n~t~i~a~g~o*, first published by London Under Construction, London, September 2003. *Contours of Chile*, which were published on the second issue of the magazine *cul-de-qui*, London. *The Naked Snaked Snakes*, *Transport System* and *The Microwave*, published on the third issue of the web magazine PORES. *The Microwave* and *The Washing Machine*, published on AND 12.

THE CAGE



ion
Designs

7
wledges
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111
l,
e
achine,

BRIDGE-BUILDING

stone steel iron concrete

arches and spans supported by piers

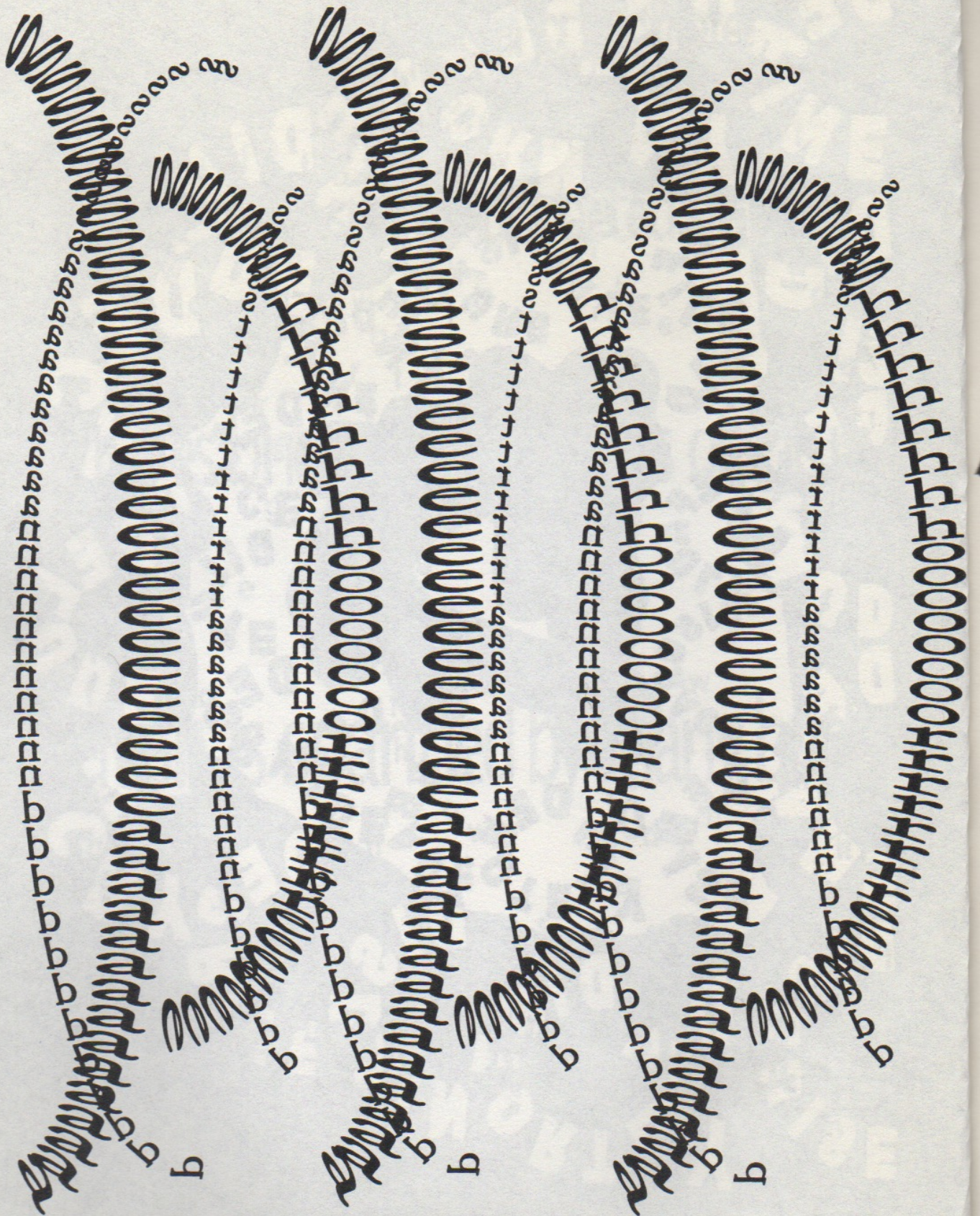
structures bridging the banks of the river

the river is spanned by many bridges

iron concrete over the stream

CONTOURS OF CHILE

I



WORDDROPS
I
LEAKING PROBLEM

ggg
ooo
t t t

ttt
aaa
k c c k
k

ttt
aaa
l l l
k

ddd
uuu
k c c k
t

ggg
ooo
t t t

ppp
aaa
k c c k
k

ppp
ooo
t t t

ccc
aaa
p p p

s

n

a

k

d

WORDPRO
THE NAKED SNARE SHIT
LEAKING PROBLEM

ggg
ooo
' t '

ttt
aaa
' nnn '
k

ggg
ooo
' t '

fff
aaa
' ccc '
t

ddq
ooo
' n'n'n' '
t

ddq
uuu
' nnn '
k

ggg
ooo
' t '

ooo
uuu
' t '

fff
aaa
uuu
t t t
t

mmm
uuu
ccc
k

ggg
ooo
t

ttt
aaa
ccc
t

ttt
nhh
www
aaa
r
t

ddg
uuu
ccc
k

kkk
nnn
ooo
ccc
k

ppp
aaa
nnn
t

II
LIGHT RAIN

h o p h o p h o p h o p
c l a c k c l a c k c l a c k c l a c k
w a l k w a l k w a l k w a l k
h a t h a t h a t h a t
h o p h o p h o p h o p
s t a c k s t a c k s t a c k s t a c k
p l o t p l o t p l o t p l o t
u p u p u p u p
h o p h o p h o p h o p
p l u c k p l u c k p l u c k p l u c k
h o p h o p h o p h o p
d a m p d a m p d a m p d a m p
c a u g h t c a u g h t c a u g h t c a u g h t
f l a n k f l a n k f l a n k f l a n k
h o p h o p h o p h o p
b u t t b u t t b u t t b u t t
b l o t b l o t b l o t b l o t
s u n k s u n k s u n k s u n k
h o p h o p h o p h o p
t a c k l e t a c k l e t a c k l e t a c k l e
d o t d o t d o t d o t
b l a c k b l a c k b l a c k b l a c k
h a l t h a l t h a l t h a l t
c l a p c l a p c l a p c l a p

III
HEAVY RAIN

STOP STOP STOP STOP
SUCH SUCH SUCH SUCH
STALL STALL STALL STALL
STAP STAP STAP STAP
STOP STOP STOP STOP
HATCH HATCH HATCH HATCH
SOAK SOAK SOAK SOAK
PAST PAST PAST PAST
STOP STOP STOP STOP
THUMP THUMP THUMP THUMP
STRAP STRAP STRAP STRAP
SPAT SPAT SPAT SPAT
TWITCH TWITCH TWITCH TWITCH
STOP STOP STOP STOP
SUCK SUCK SUCK SUCK
THROB THROB THROB THROB
HUNCH HUNCH HUNCH HUNCH
SHUT SHUT SHUT SHUT
THOUGH THOUGH THOUGH THOUGH
PATCH PATCH PATCH PATCH
WASH WASH WASH WASH
SMUT SMUT SMUT SMUT

P
k
k
t
P
k
t
P
P
k
P
P
h t
k
P
t
t
k
P
l e
t
k
t
P

IV
FLOOD

stop hatch soak past stop hatch soak past stop hatch soak hatch stop hatch soak past
stop thump stop strap stop thump stop strap stop thump stop strap stop thump stop strap
spot touch stop suck spot touch stop suck spot touch stop suck spot touch stop suck
throb hunch stop shut throb hunch stop shut throb hunch stop shut throb hunch stop shut
thought patch wash smut thought patch wash smut thought patch wash smut thought patch wash smut

A SMOKING GUN

shivering from a chill

wheezing shuddering

at the sight of shivering violently

shivering at shuddering with

a shivery chill wheezing while

suffering from the shuddering movements of

the strong shaking movements of

a chill at the sight of wheezing

shivering at while

shivering violently at shuddering with

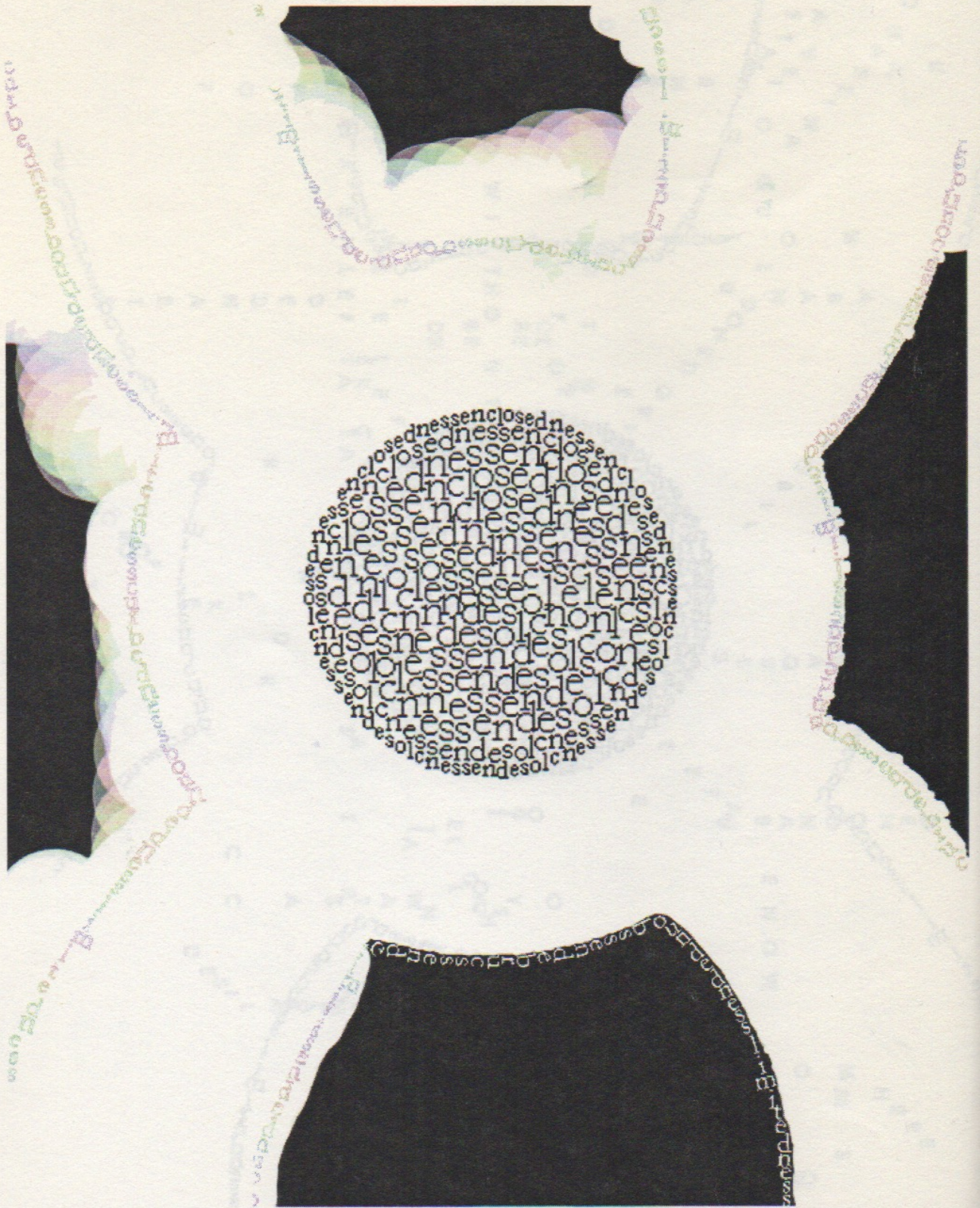
a shivery chill wheezing

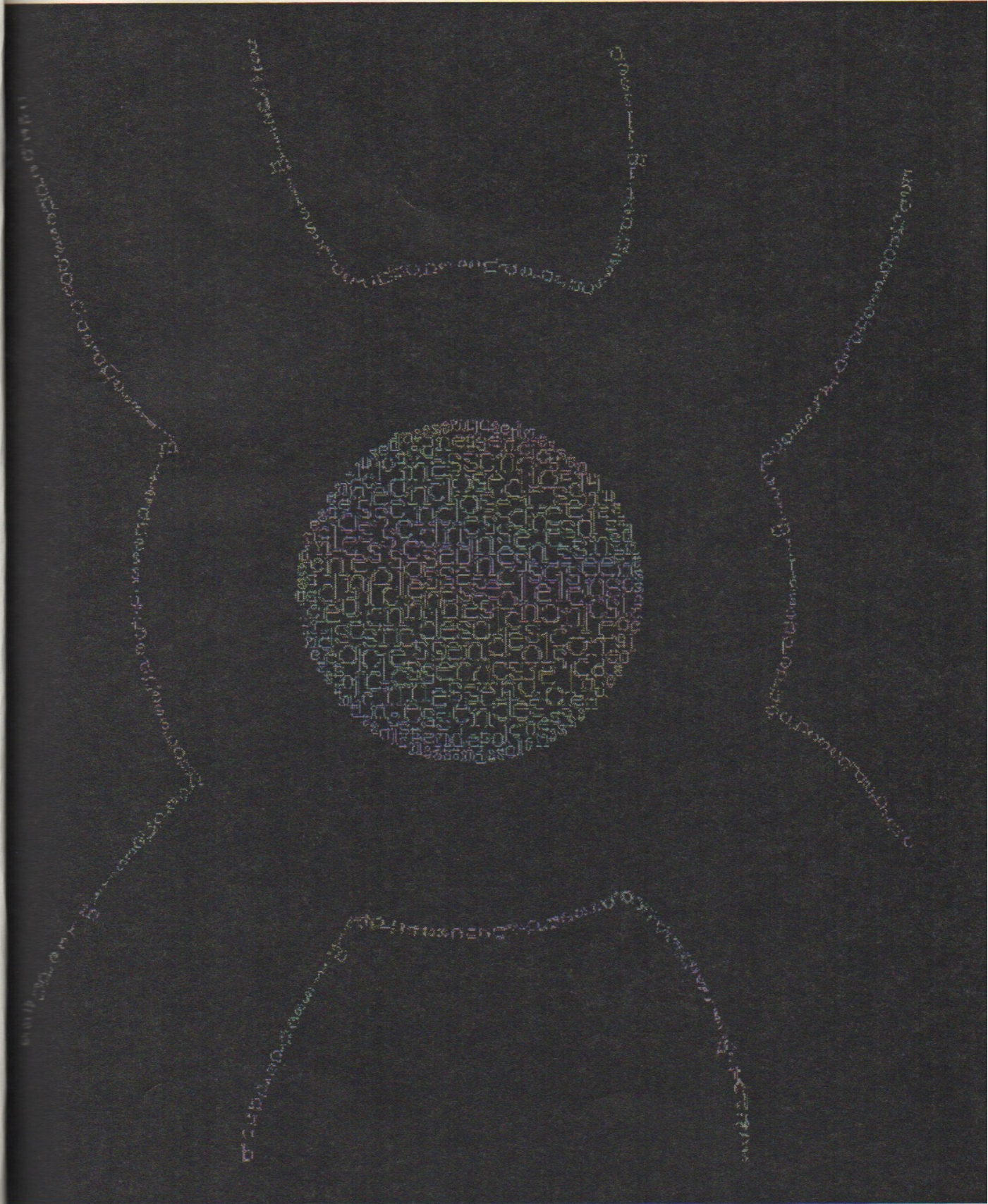
at the sight of

Y O U A R E I N A Q U E N D O N E D G R I D E Z E U R E I N A Q U E U
Y H E R E T S A V E T A X E N B Y F U N D W I T H O U T C A R T F O Z R E U T T H O E N M O M H F N Q H A N S W Y H O Y A Q I A Z A I L A W N D A T S A S D T A N D S T I L L I
H E R E T A R A M E N B Y S U R P R S A K E N L E F T A S E O I T K D A E W N K I R N D S U A I S A T I A E L Y S H G O A T L M O M S E S Y T E A M P A R A L
U A R E I N A Q U E N D O N E D G R I D E Z E U R E I N A Q U E U D E N O D N A B E N O W M M S H E R E O M M S F E R E V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
H A B A N A Q U E N D O N E D G R I D E Z E U R E I N A Q U E U D E N O D N A B E N O W M M S H E R E O M M S F E R E V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
I M M O B I L I Z E U R E I N A Q U E U D E N O D N A B E N O W M M S H E R E O M M S F E R E V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
U R E I N A Q U E U D E N O D N A B E N O W M M S H E R E O M M S F E R E V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
D E N O D N A B E N O W M M S H E R E O M M S F E R E V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
E N O W M M S H E R E O M M S F E R E V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
H E R E O M M S F E R E V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
O M M S F E R E V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
F E R E V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
V Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
Q D H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
H E M P E A R A L L I S E D
M P E A R A L L I S E D
P E A R A L L I S E D
E A R A L L I S E D
A R A L L I S E D
R A L L I S E D
L L I S E D
L I S E D
I S E D
S E D
E D
D

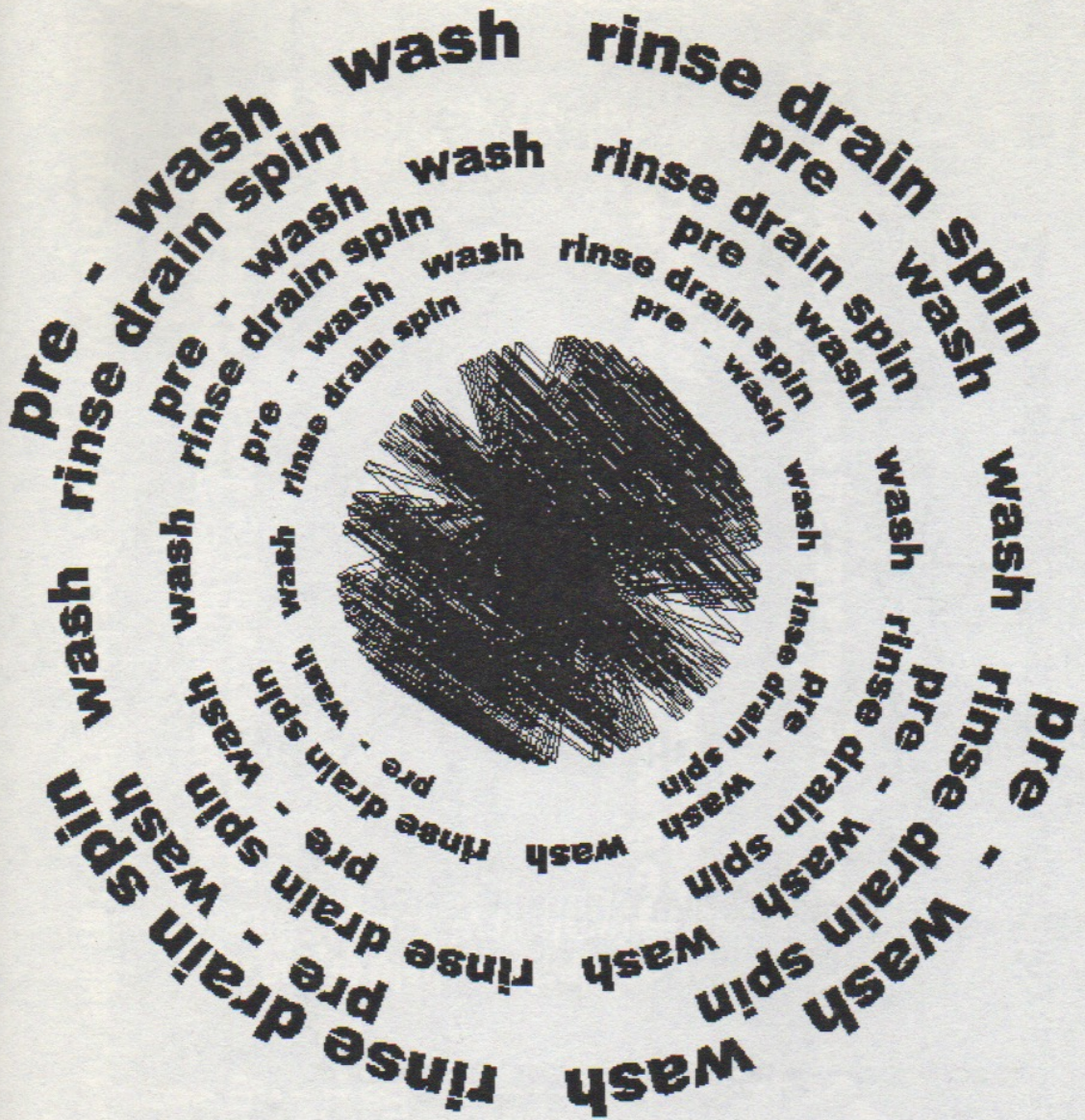
T A K E N B Y S U R P R S A K E N L E F T A S E O I T K D A E W N K I R N D S U A I S A T I A E L Y S H G O A T L M O M S E S Y T E A M P A R A L

K L A W A L D E C R O F Y





THE WASHING MACHINE



CESS
CESS

CESS
CESS

A transmitter sends the signals into a hollow metal box that keeps them within like a microwave oven. The signals are reflected by the walls of the box and make them move randomly.

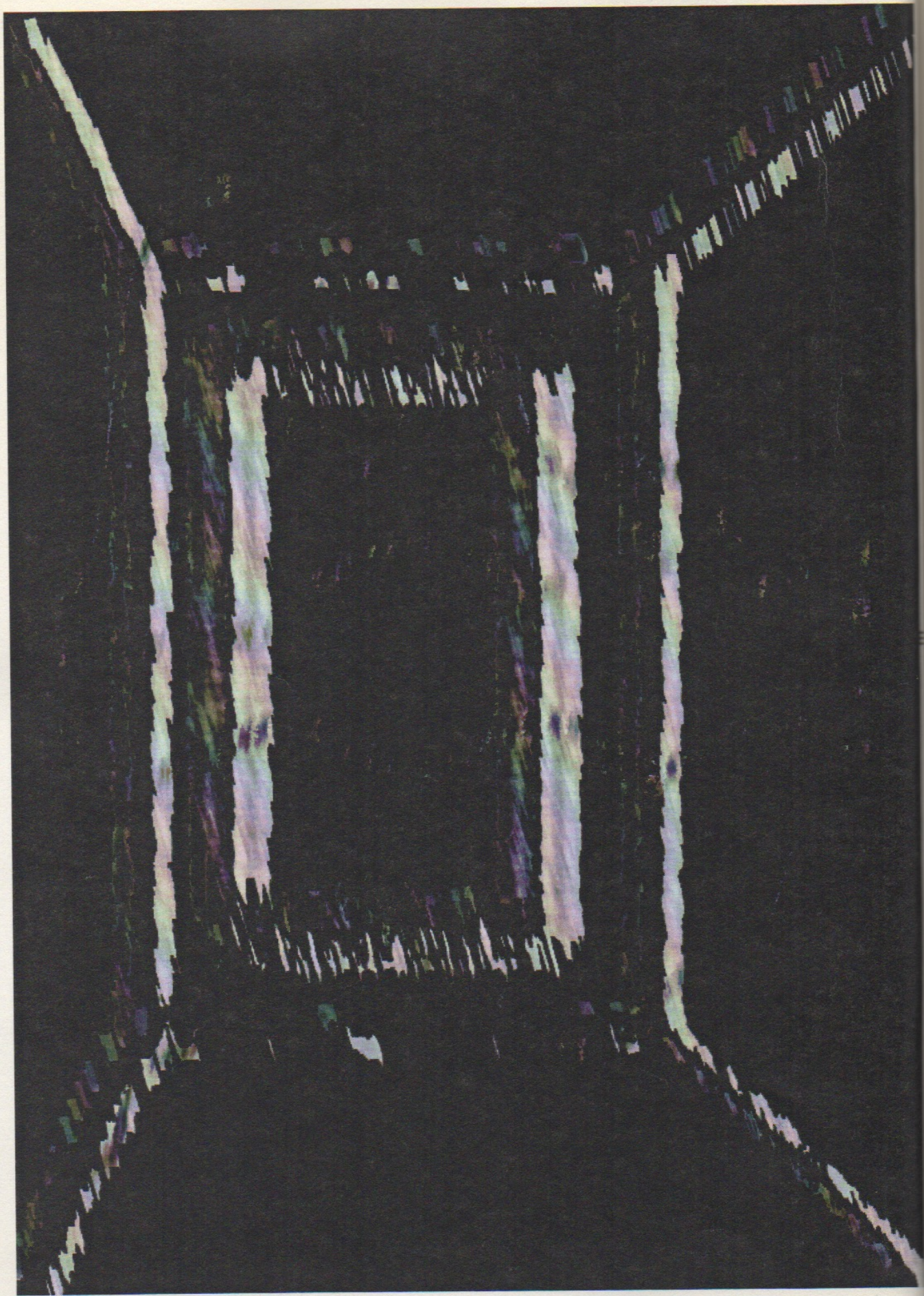
The molecules of water tend to line themselves up with the electric field of the microwave. As the field changes, the molecules rotate. This rotation is what heats the food. The microwave heats by means of micro radio waves that have the same frequency of water molecules. The molecules of water tend to line themselves up with the electric field of the microwave. As the field changes, the molecules rotate. This rotation is what heats the food. The microwave heats by means of micro radio waves that have the same frequency of water molecules.

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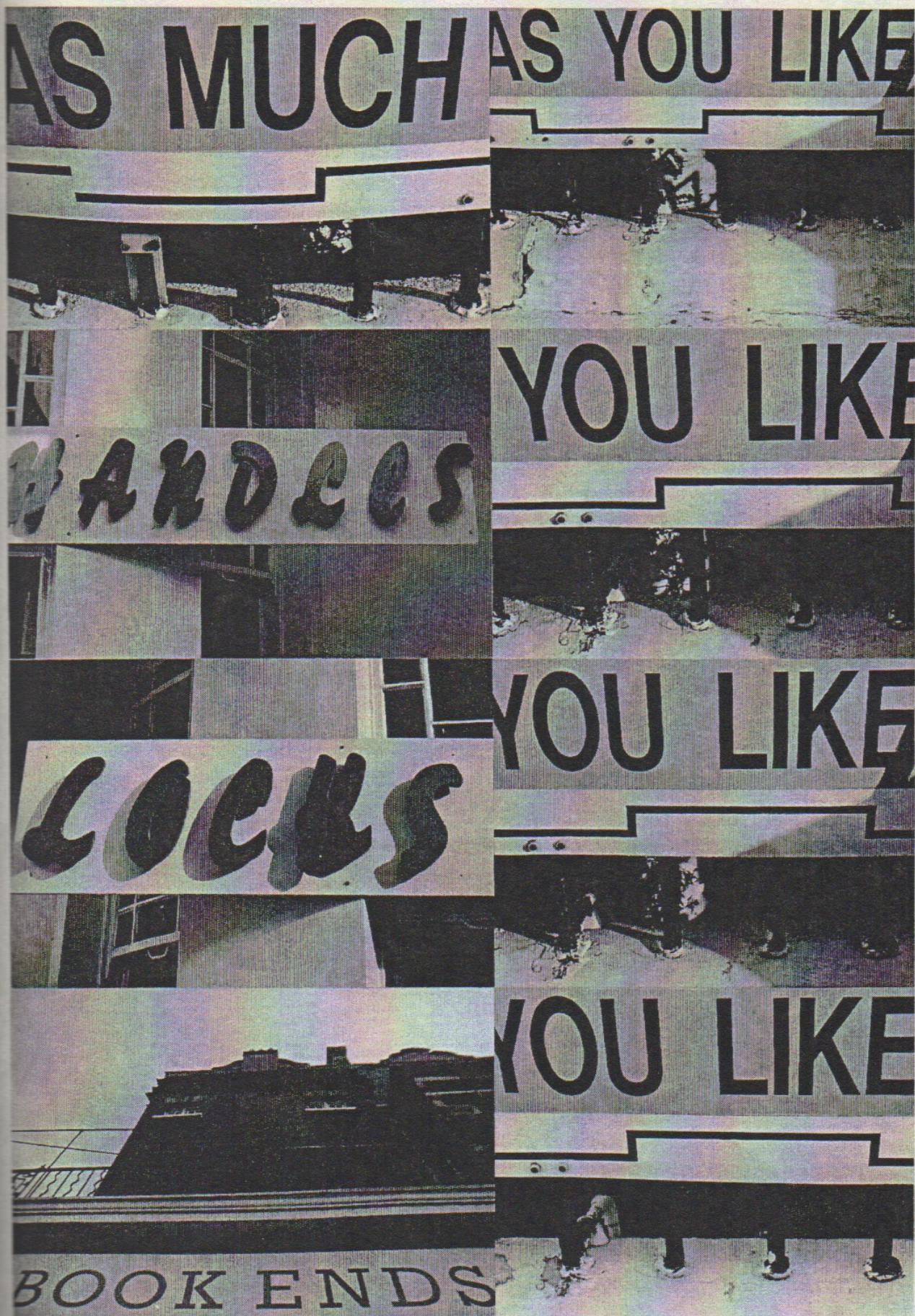
the microwave heats by means of micro radio waves that have the same frequency of water molecules. The molecules of water tend to line themselves up with the electric field of the microwave. As the field changes, the molecules rotate. This rotation is what heats the food. The microwave heats by means of micro radio waves that have the same frequency of water molecules.

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and pile on top of it. The
 mechanism is ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~you~~ ^{you} feel ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~is~~ ^{is} easy
~~to~~ ^{to} ~~use~~ ^{use} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~pressure~~ ^{pressure} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all}
 the pressure builds up
 and ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~pressure~~ ^{pressure} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all}
 high ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~middle~~ ^{middle} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~line~~ ^{line} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~difference~~ ^{difference} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all}
 much ~~more~~ ^{more} ~~common~~ ^{common} ~~than~~ ^{than} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~pressure~~ ^{pressure} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~feel~~ ^{feel}
 them ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~one~~ ^{one} ~~thing~~ ^{thing} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~pressure~~ ^{pressure} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all}
 how ~~much~~ ^{much} ~~can~~ ^{can} ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~moment~~ ^{moment} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all}
 two ~~things~~ ^{things} ~~which~~ ^{which} ~~can~~ ^{can} ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~done~~ ^{done} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~time~~ ^{time} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~pressure~~ ^{pressure} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all}
 so ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~pressure~~ ^{pressure} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~time~~ ^{time} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~pressure~~ ^{pressure} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~all~~ ^{all}

bridge people are particularly at risk
 they favour large
 mothers are also a kind of
 names are getting and
 mine out of the
 to check your
 have some form of
 it is vital that you treat
 anyone's talk
 on we work and cope with
 strictly if it's about the
 these speaking
 seriousness of a situation talk to
 or someone with



er
it
e
dot
nt
ky
yet
den
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sent
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one
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AS MUCH

LOCKS

AS YOU LIKE

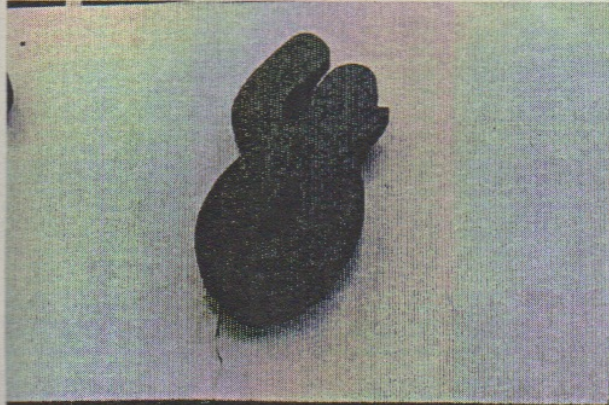
MEMORIES

YOU LIKE

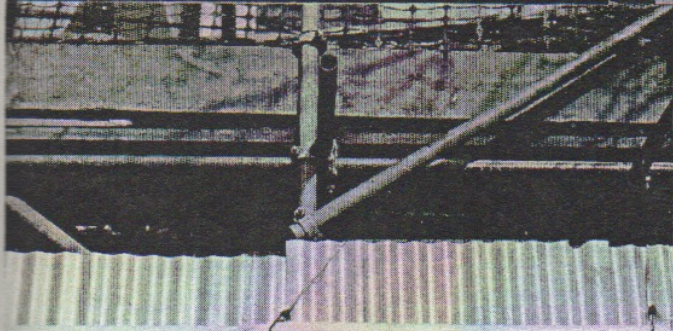
HOPE

GARDENS

Locks &



CARE

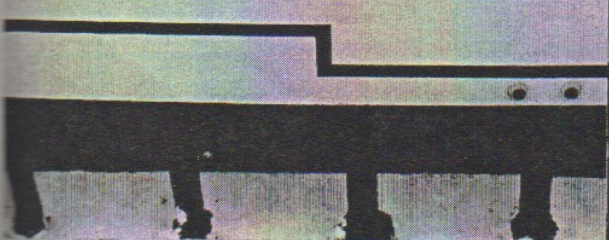


YOU

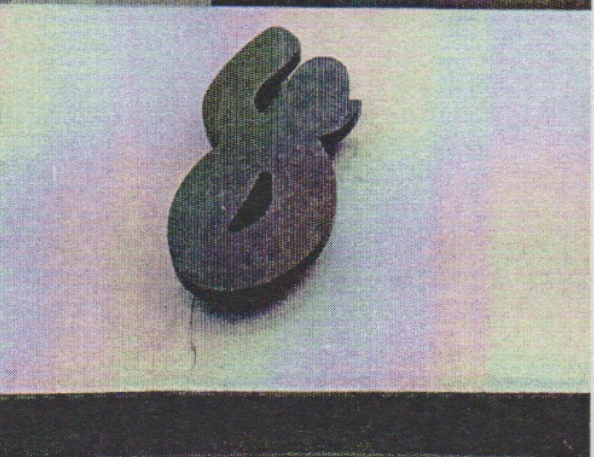
UNTIL THE DAMAGES ARE REPAIRED

LIKE

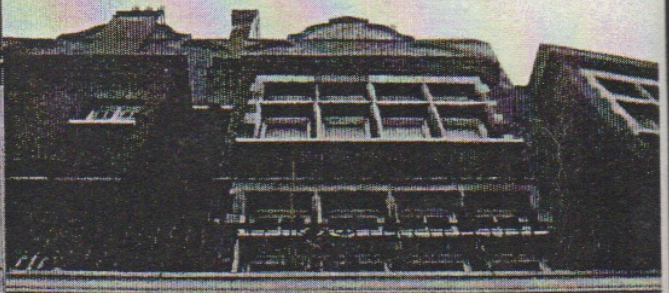
HANDLES



CHANGE



LOCKS



PAPERCRAFTS



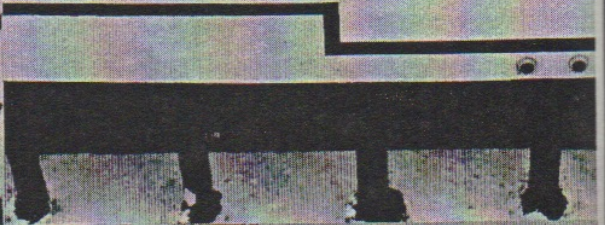
Locks &

• 5 mail.

HOPE

LIKE

YOU



OFF

throwing a

h c s f

U

the words



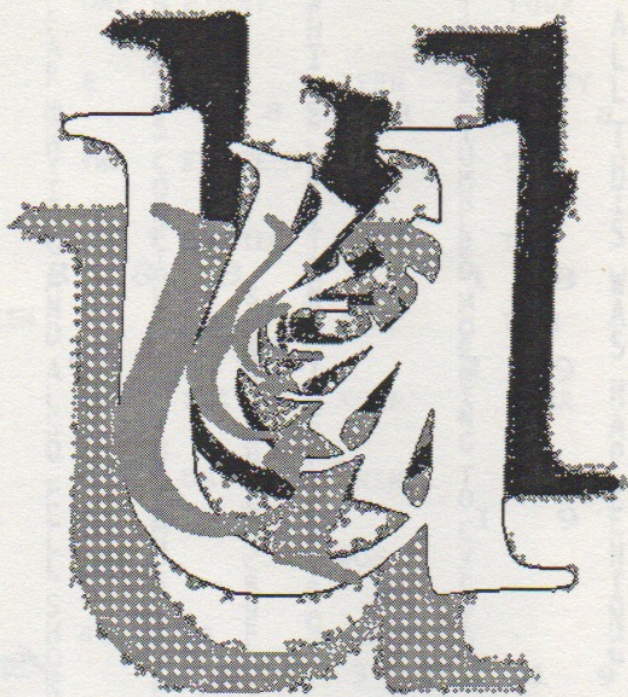
1-5-4-1-2-1-2-0-0

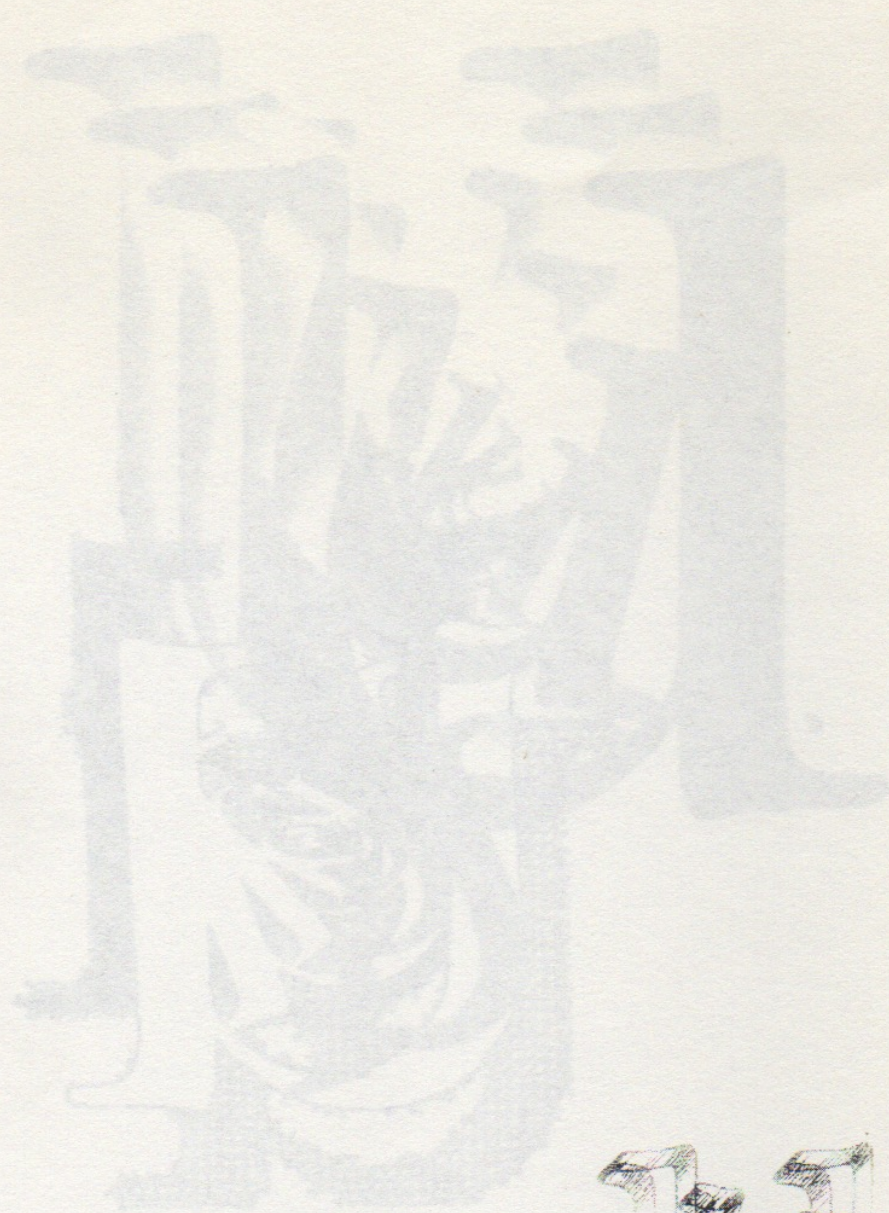
1 5 4 1 1 6 4 3 1 6 9 0
SEVENTEEN FORTY ONE SIXTEEN FORTY THREE SEVENTEEN FORTY FIVE EIGHTEEN FORTY SEVEN

SEVENTEEN FORTY EIGHT SEVENTEEN FIFTY ONE SEVENTEEN FIFTY FOUR SEVENTEEN FIFTY SEVEN

SEVENTEEN SIXTY SEVENTEEN SEVENTEEN EIGHTY SEVENTEEN EIGHTY THREE SEVENTEEN EIGHTY SIX SEVENTEEN EIGHTY NINE

SEVENTEEN NINETY SEVENTEEN NINETY TWO SEVENTEEN NINETY FIVE SEVENTEEN NINETY EIGHT SEVENTEEN ONE HUNDRED





I
E
1
S
S
1
E
O
1
O
1
O
O
1
E
E
1
M
1
M
O
1
O
O
1
O
1
E

S ~ A ~ N ~ T ~ I ~ A ~ G ~ O

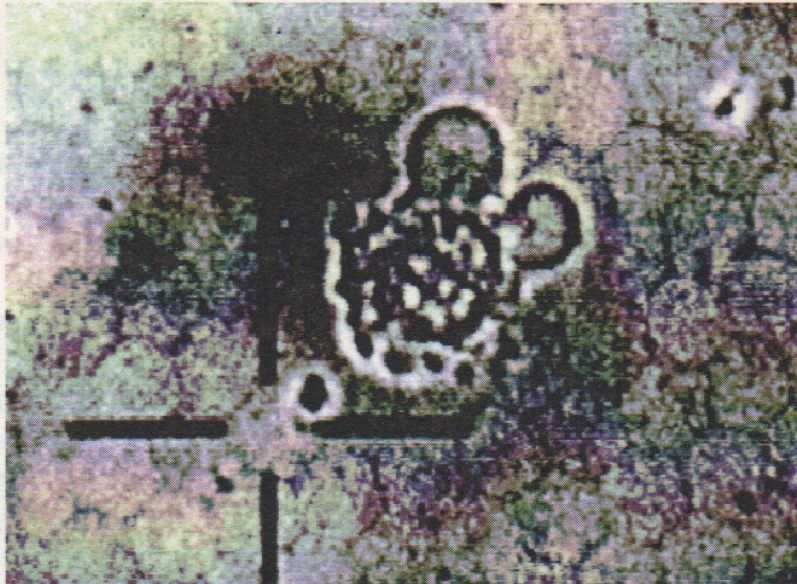
1	5	4	1	1	6	4	3	1	6	9	0				
<u>FIFTEEN</u>	<u>FORTY ONE</u>			SIXTEEN	FORTY THREE			SIXTEEN		NINETY					
1	7	4	8	1	7	5	1	1	7	7	6	1	7	8	2
SEVENTEEN	FORTY	EIGHT		SEVENTEEN	FIFTY ONE			SEVENTEEN	SEVENTY	SIX					
SEVENTEEN	EIGHTY			TWO	SEVENTEEN			EIGHTY		THREE					
1	7	8	3	1	8	0	5	1	8	1	0				
EIGHTEEN	0	FIVE		<u>EIGHTEEN</u>	<u>TEN</u>	ONE		EIGHT	ONE	SEVEN					
ONE		EIGHT		ONE	EIGHT	ONE		EIGHT	TWO	0					
1	8	1	7	1	8	8		1	8	2	0				
ONE		EIGHT	TWO	1	ONE	ONE		EIGHT	TWO	TWO	3				
1	8	2	1	1	8	2		1	8	3	3				
ONE		EIGHT	THREE	THREE	ONE	EIGHT		WHILE	FOUR	TWO					
ONE		EIGHT	FIVE	0	E	IGH		TEEN	FIFTY	ONE					
1	8	2		8	5	1	8	5	1	2					
EIGH		TEEN	FIFT	Y	TWO	EIGHTEEN		FIF	TYF	IVE					
EIGHTE		EN	EIGHTY	TH	REE	EIGHTEE		NEIGH	TY	EIGHT					
1	8	5	5	1	8	3		NEIGH	8	8					
NINETEE		NO	TWO	NINETEEN	0	SIX		NINE	TEEN	ONINE					
1	9	0	2	9	0	6		NEON	ETHR	EE					
NI		NET	EEN	TEN	ON	ENI		ON	TWOF	OUR					
0		NE	NINE	TWO	0	ON		ENINE	TWOF	OUR					
1	9	1	0	NI	9	NET		WOF	1	9	2	0			
ON		E		TH	REE	FO		U							
0		NE	NINE	TH	REE	FO									
1	9	4		9	2	1	9	3	4	5					
ON		EN	I	NE	NE	F	0	R	T	Y	N	I	N	E	
1	9	2	4	9	1	9	6	2	1	9	6	6			
NI	NET	EEN	SIX	TY	TWO	NI	NET	EEN	SIX	TY	SIX				

NI NET EENS EVENT Y ONE NI NET EENS EVENT Y TWO
 1 9 7 1 1 9 7 3 1 9 8 8
 NI NET EENS EVENT Y THREE NINE TEEN EIGHT Y EIGHT
 1 9 8 9 1 9 9 0
 NI NET EEN EIGHT Y NINENINE TEEN NI NET Y

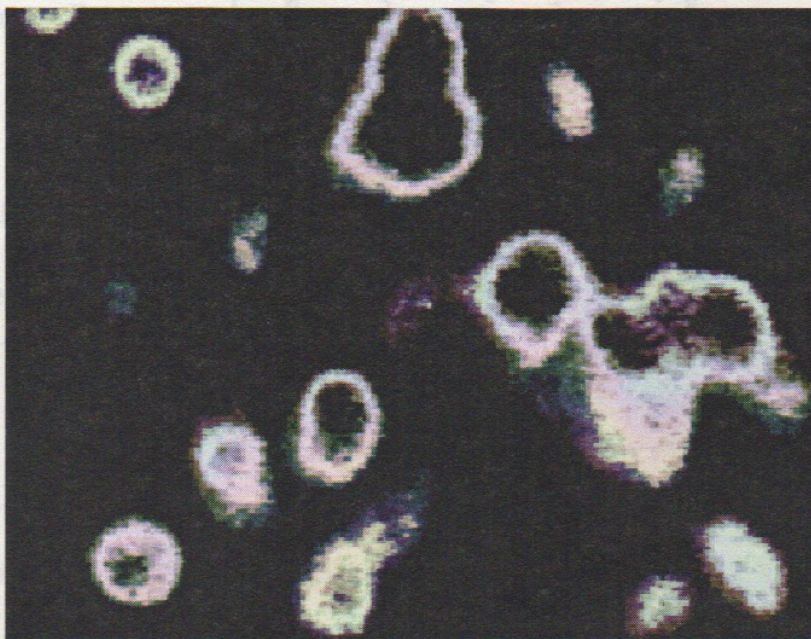
PSYOPS

**THE ROUTES ARE SPARSE
AND CROSSED BY WATERWAYS.
WHICH MESSAGES ARE LIKELY TO WORK
AND WHICH TO INSULT THE INTELLIGENCE?**

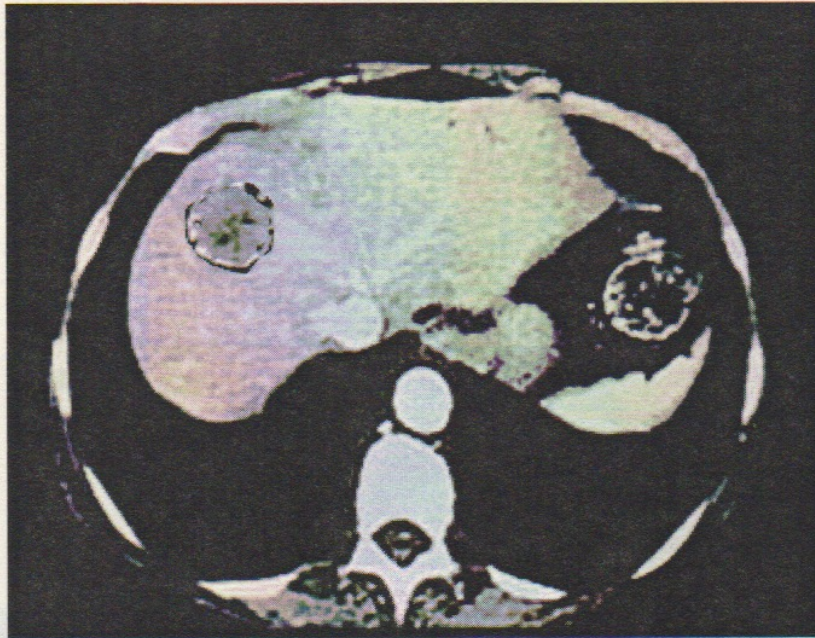
press red on your digital remote



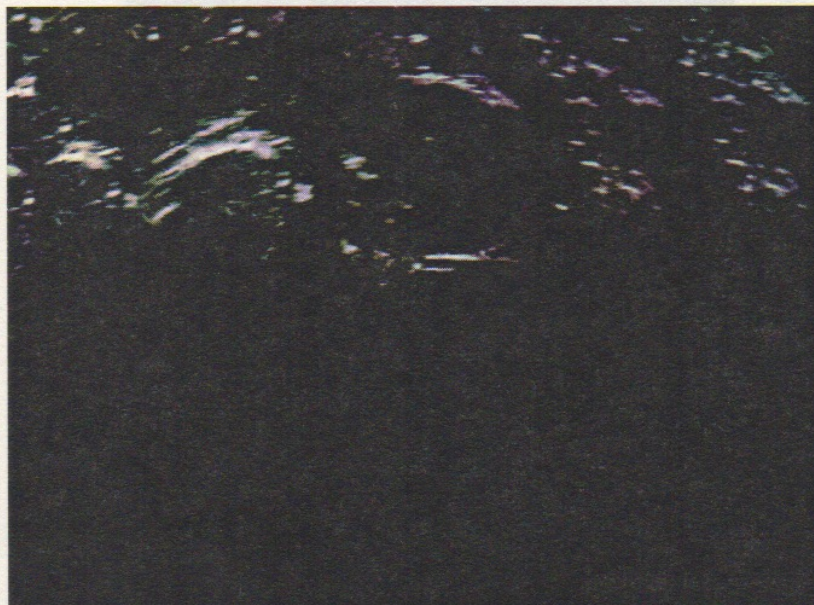
obscured broad strategic facts dominate the scene



“these are sick people and we are the chemotherapy”



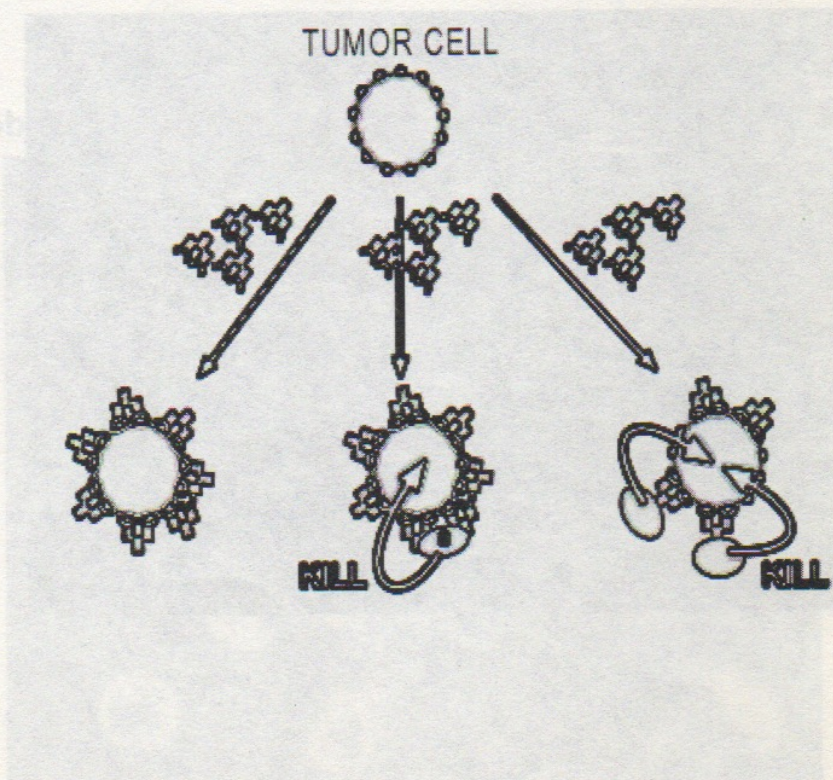
flares lit bits of sky



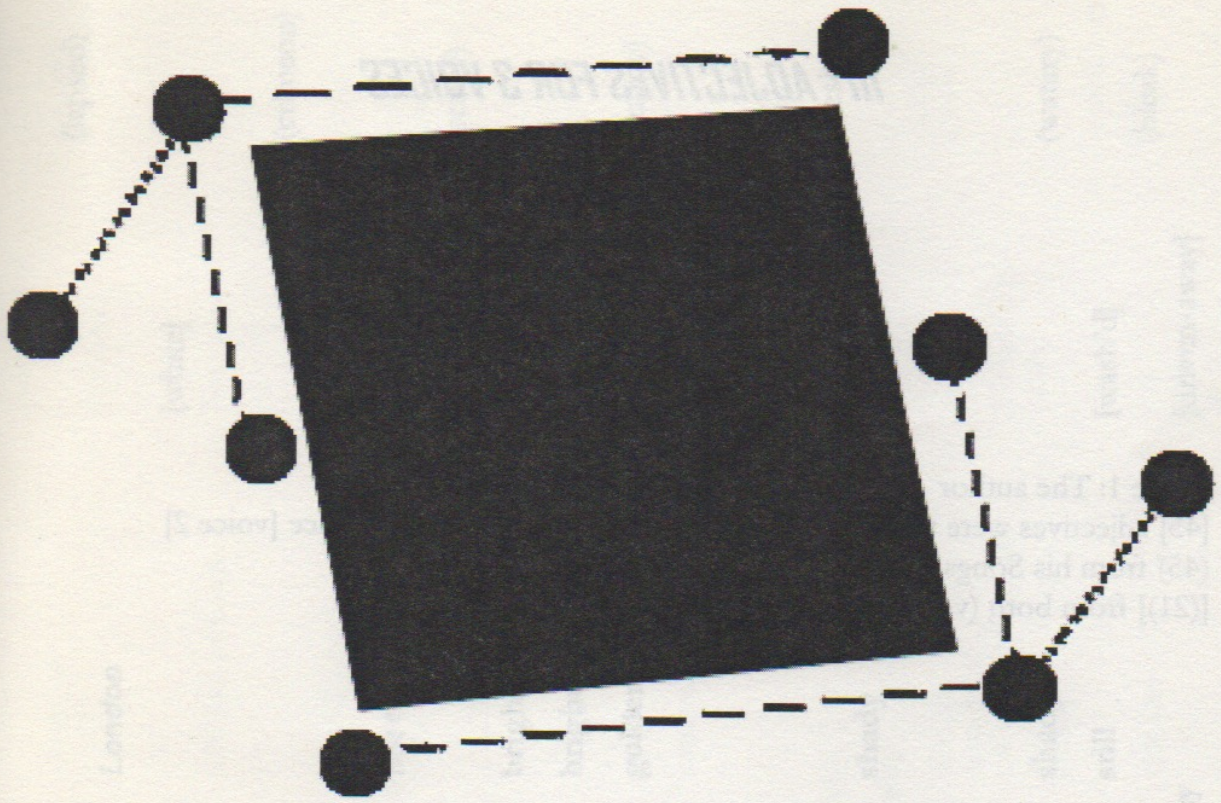
an army dissolving into civilian society



human beings are in fact a pile of atoms



It is not possible to turn away
It is not possible to keep up



111 ADJECTIVES FOR 3 VOICES*

*for my friends of the Writers Forum
to whom this poem belongs,
litera(ri)lly speaking*

- * Voice 1: The author
[45] adjectives were taken from William Blake's Songs of Innocence [voice 2]
(45) from his Songs of Experience (voice 3), and
[(21)] from both (voices 2 & 3 together)

I can reference forward
as well as reference back
under the white sky of

London

written up misspelt

[white]

(lapsed)

[(gray)]

misspent misplaced

a bit of a misfit

(crimson)

like remains to build

the roads are

[golden]

not too

straight for reality here

things change while

[blue]

bright

the white sky is

bright

not as a

golden sky

not as a

[clear]

(sunny)

blue clear hollow near

painted heard white sky

[(red)]

but as a

shady

(fresh)

gray green red and black

ruddy sky

[shady]

things change while

shady

(watery)

the white sky is

still

[(black)]

seated at rest locked-up

sun-burnt wash'd driven-away

(bleak)

[wash'd]
[driven-away]

<i>the day is</i>	sunny		
warm cold bleak		[hollow]	
<i>the roads are</i>	<i>not too</i>		[(ruddy)]
straight <i>here</i>			(dangerous)
<i>the pavement is</i>	wet	[near]	
<i>the watery roads are</i>	watchful		
lick up granite red walls			(drear)
wet pavements, loose bricks			
things (wet bricks..... <u>loose</u> /		[wet]	
behind the eyes			[(dark)]
<i>the silence of</i>	remains		
behind the eyes			(deadly)
<i>the whole sky is</i>	<i>scratching its back</i>		[(warm)]
<i>like a falsifier</i>		[painted]	
travel-worn wary pale			(distant)
<i>the whole sky is</i>	distant		(weary)
stony trodden weary wild		[heard]	
things change while	thoughtless		(pale)
ready starry found			
<i>the white sky is</i>	<i>not too hapless</i>	[clean]	[(cold)]
<i>not too</i>			(heavy)
straight for reality		[narrow]	
invisible	remains		(weak)
behind the eyes			(found)

behind the eyes

(found)

stutter hesitate falter

[sun-burnt]

and honey as landscape

(invisible)

this is the weather

you who live here

[(thoughtless)]

these are the

not too

[young]

straight roads

(stony)

the bright white shady sky

the white whiteness well kept secret

(selfish)

the watery roads

[seated]

find

find out fit fresh future

(vain)

pitter-pattering

[still]

spitter-spattering

(lost)

chattering clattering

battering rattling

[(covered)]

buffering bluffing

(sick)

BLACK.as.BLACKBIRD.in.spring

[at rest]

taking stock of what is happening

the loose bricks are

dismal

(grave)

grave

behind the eyes

[locked-up]

the wet pavements are

silent

[(silent)]

slender blow'd bare

(slender)

this isn't part of it all

[moony]

but

Spill City

spitspew chewing

dreams up and

spitting them out

while

[wooly]

(dismal)

(deceitful)

things change while

naked

[(bare)]

covered bright shady

(fearful)

endless crowd

[small]

army building bunch

(endless)

cloud clutch herd hive

[soft]

host mob pack pride run

(trodden)

like the impressions of leaves

[(meek)]

run

[bereav'd]

inaudible against the night sky

(hapless)

pride

the pavement is

heedful

[watchful]

you who live here

(fallen)

predicting the weather

is one thing

predicting it correctly

is another

[tangl'd]

(fruitful)

like the impressions of

fallen

leaves

[heart-broke]

little fruitful usurous wasted

(wasted)

sneezing swelling redness

[usurous]

in the majority of cases

[travel-worn]

sneezing swelling redness

[usurous]

in the majority of cases

[travel-worn]

they don't cause drowsiness

(blow'd)

the tangl'd pavement dances speaker

[cheerful]

the river in spate is a strip of tangents

[(little)]

the impressions left behind the eyes

(helpless)

eye

an inaudible darkroom runs

[merry]

opens and shuts

[(mild)]

opens and shuts

(starved)

opens and shuts

the weather is one thing

[troubled]

the landscape is

another

(wild)

the road is one thing

[wildered]

the pavement is another

the buildings the clouds the leaves

(threatening)

the sky

[ready]

the bright white shady sky

[(old)]

others others others

run

[fast]

another thing

(artful)

another utterance flutters

[wise]

swift wise artful

like the sharp lines Nature scratches

[swift]

tears effectuate all runny streams

[(lonely)]

things change while flowing

running leaving

the night sky *is*
aged healthy tired

deep

[aged]

(healthy)

a pause in the river's thrusting
a puncture in the river's smooth skin
the circle a tear, ripping up the sky
gray green red *and* black

[forlon]

(tired)

(angry)

[(bright)]

scratching its sharp back

behind

the eye

remains

[quiet]

like a falsifier

angry dreadful forlorn
fled & gone
lives on as a displacement

[human]

(anxious)

a pause in the
a puncture in the
changes

utterance
while

[rich]

[(fled)]

one thing
another *thing*
pavements
the white sky

written up
misspelt
misspent
flutters

[dreadful]

[heedful]

(arm'd)

a pause in the
of the poets
like the impressions of

murmuring
leaves

[wary]

[(gone)]

London Poems (2001 – 2003)

Martin Gubbins

Writers Forum

