

H A R K H E R A L D

1. canal round

tell your mother about your hunger
like river ghost filled with sewage, fish,
plastic, ships through the river kish
flotsam hiss on rusted grill / crickets make the dusk seem shrill

try to be like a blow-through sand dune
like the wriggled slivered glass wire eel
like stacked up pallet iron, steel
rain peels off in shimmer sheets / draining out from winter streets

nowadays wind won't come through this town
you'll pass through fine black sieves like wildflour
like massive white panoptic tower
sunbeams bleach your linen towels / scarab tongues braid brassy vowels

2. intercontinental ballistic missile

paper bag of dry lentils
two stairs at a time
she's out in the alley again
it's double magpie tuesday
rinse under hot tap
all jars unscrew easy
teeth with the tea stains
tannin in the sink drains
held her in the hall
bundle up warm now
wouldn't want to catch a cold