# ARRANGEMENTS



THE QUEER EXPERIENCE

TEXT-GENERATED POEMS ON

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#### lips.

no language can properly reflect the lips i would have cooled, the lips i would have opened, the lips i would have made full, the lips i would have spoken.

#### name.

had she not known that i had been the favourable name,

the last name she had seen thrown into the sea.

it was the name she had been expecting to hear from.

#### dreams.

caught between his two
gut feelings he rose, and fell
to one
to hug his bosoms, and to kiss
his lips,
while thoughts wandered his
immovable being
was always visible in his dream.

#### self.

and i for one's own
futile self
i raise one's voice against
the arbitrary power of

vices, androgyny, and concealing
my own, as much as your own soul.

#### futile.

futile conception,

socially stimulating orgasm,

futile affection

#### feminine.

i sometimes have a queer feeling with respect to bras and pants, and loincloths, and knucksoms, and cupids, and pockets,

for lack of a better name,

a feminine name, indeed,

a most queer of a name.

### ANGER

#### feeling.

i sometimes have a queer feeling with regard to girls

i don't believe any of you suffer as i
do

for you are neither fit nor smart, and inevitably gay, hetero, or any other sex.

#### last.

you are the oldest I have ever known, and I hope will be the last, you are the most curious animal you have ever been, you were the last to see us, and I hope will be the last, you were the last to kiss us, and wept over us, and murdered us,



### **ANGER**

#### suffer.

to suffer, to wander, to live in the burnt earth, to have my say ignored, to be suborned, loathed, pampered, and sometimes even murdered, for the same reason as i do: because it leads me to believe that any good can come of developing into a species of futile servility, which, if allowed to proceed, will make me a species of equal sex.

# **ANGER**

#### life.

three weeks passed since i had seen her pink, small, and punctual i am angry nearly every day of my life



#### need.

a desire in my being, inseverable and intertwined, abiding euphoria a proclivity in my existence, inseverable and integral, everlasting pleasure the yearning in my soul, inseverable and intertwined, abiding ecstasy

#### graze.

she excused herself
their lips grazed but there was no
pressure applied,
there was no kiss
women.

#### both.

or both.

i
came to
his mouth
for any answer,
or explanation,

#### against.

and if it were any comfort, it would be

against her own will, she was to be conceited

about me, she would be sure of it.

and if it were any comfort, it would be

against her own will, she was to be fatal

of & me.

and if it were any comfort, it would be

against her own will, she was to be impetuous

of me, she was to be full of & me.

and if it were any comfort, it would be

against her own will, she was to be cruelty-free.

#### better.

the dying need but is well-deserved, the honourable have been few; the rich had it better, the poor had it better; the humblest tasks were best done when the hands were between the lips.

#### fool.

you are the oldest i have ever known, and i hope will be the last. what the hell are you going to think of me? are you the gull, fool, or the pedlar, as we are called here in ireland? are you the vain, or even the most foolish of us.

#### permit.

if you would permit me,
to salute you,
face to face;
couple us, take my cup, and
kiss the bottom.
If you would desire to
receive me,
take my hand, and count my
blessings,
of the kingdom of heaven and
hell,
you shall find me, in a
little time.

#### you.

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you liked me wrong; you liked me well-groomed; you liked me well-pinked; you liked me full of yourself; well done, girls; now get over yourself; fuck, you deserve this; you have killed yourself.
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yes, you may kiss me, and cry; and wring out my kisses and tears they'll blight you—they'll damn you.

#### time.

another time, another creak; another creak, another creak. two breast leaning against the mantel; another time, another creak, and creak wept on the mantel. another creak, another creak. another creak, some day. a hurricane is expected. borne, and forgotten.

#### funeral.

bold and proper, some nights i should rather be dead than in this happy world than in this unhappy one.

i felt a funeral in my brain, and a most queer familiarity with the tomboy whom i had just met stood by, face to face.



#### lost.

the soul searches for its true self in a silence which cannot be found in words long lost.

#### melancholy.

three weeks passed since i
had seen her,
 from the deepest
melancholy to the grave
 i felt the sting of
desperation.

#### misery.

women are supposed to be very calm generally: but they are full too late, and misery follows much the more slowly. the humblest tasks get beautified if loving hands do all that loving talking.

#### worthy.

insufficient were all my pretensions to please a woman worthy of being pleased.

i meant to tell her how i
longed.
the heart asks pleasure
first,
deaden suffering.

#### dead.

the words of a dead creature on the morrow are the last words of a dying futile being.

#### thoughtless.

yes, dear, there is blood in the water in the barns of thoughtless adventure

and nowhere is this thoughtless thought found

#### buttons.

the heart asks too little, the soul grows weak; the brain fills itself with idle thought, the same feeling is attached to the same buttons.



#### cup of tea.

"inappropriate" or "arbitrary" this is a small sample several small but very significant decisions have been made in our own lives while the rest of us are experiencing their own suffering, their own misery the other party suffers their own suffering, their own misery order yourself and your dog a cup of tea and put them to rest.

#### familiar.

i felt a hand on my back, and a sound familiarity had established in me.

the familiarity was as instantly felt as the first time.

the familiarity seemed to stretch over all my body, to the ribs, to the mouth, to the lips

#### bird.

i am the bird, and the wind everything.

you are the buoyant bird, and the ballast water everything is.

i am the mooring gull, and the mooring water everything is.

you are the rainbow, and the sea and sky and everything is.

i am the misty morning mist, and the stars and the mother earth nothing but me.

the bush, the garden, and the little pond all round me.

the dresser, the stereo, the tv, the radio, the fridge, the cup, the box, the box of presents—it is all in me.

the computer, the novel, and the box of presents all the rest is in me.

#### privilege.

pink, small, and punctual,
aromatic, low,
a privilege of hurricane
to memory and me.

#### gratitude.

mind, and laugh at her jokes, even though they mean wrong; they even hurt, in some cases, even kill, a romantic thought which you have just experienced, and have roared a newly.

in such cases as this, it is, i think, the established mode to express a sense of obligation for the sentiments avowed, however unequally they may be returned.

it is natural that obligation should be felt, and if i could feel gratitude, i would now thank you.

but i cannot--i have never desired your good opinion, and you have certainly bestowed it most unwillingly.

#### heart.

let us be elegant or die!
let us be poor, or get a knoll!
that would be selfish!

for pleasure, i think, the heart desires.

for affection, the heart desires it.

for self-improvement, the heart desires it.

for truth the heart teaches.

for justice the heart teaches.

#### souls.

you know well that love is the fruit of hard work, and work always pays dividends. it is thoughtless to condemn you, or laugh at you, or label you, or label us, if you think that effort, money, or privilege is the only reward for being good. it is thoughtless to condemn you, or laugh at you, or label you, if you think that reason is the soul's judge.

#### farce.

and a company -- our
pleasure
play a farce, which i merely
laugh at
it was the same hand i'd
been expecting