

Cat Washington

The light is pink through the back trees
can be pines or larches or pears

kinship terms more familiar than names can be
distancing diminutivizing affirming unfamiliar no longer

power cut no inverter
use the gas make tea

a smell dettol stronger than dettol antiseptic toxic
polished compound granite brown

not the smell but the trees beyond
can be

clay dirt car paths cement rock pine
pitched roofs voiced f → v it's too dark make tea

not the smell but the trees beyond can
be thin

thin through competition which becomes domestic
thin through taking thin through sharing thin alkaline

belt that looks like it's in inches
measuring the land they wanted to measure right up to the drain

he demanded they measure four feet from the drain and they wouldn't
they measured two feet from the drain

multiply 130 per sq foot by 150 by something and it
comes to seven lakhs and something

are you accusing me of making a mistake
it's eight

The light is still morning light
thin but full and not paining bright

Cat *Kyntiak* later disappeared leaving
jean thread hangings tangling attachment

missing swipes the vox-hollow bereft
Cat *Kyntiak* is motionless intent

We lurch forward since the machinery
has started

Like citrus vapor
the light emulsifies

micronic droplet flammande.
Kyntiak intensifies

muscles tighten dainty
to articulate tip

She begins to open and close her jaws
rapidly in a clatter

Like toy teeth hers are needles
on a wound spring

and she in a trance flashing the teeth the jaws
opening and closing very rapidly

clattering an involuntary chatter from the throat an eck eck eck
frightening until a short echo sounds

She's imitating a small black bird nearly perfectly as a kind of lure
staring intent involuntary

Let out in the afternoon moon
hens

sawdust sticking to their heels
forking

but ignored draw lines in the wet grass pushing up
pyrjong mosquitos

Intimate gossamers but gossamers
require cossetting to be expected to survive

Close the windows it's after 5 it's already two hours
that the mosquitoes in the shallows hit the shadows

Nature where encroachments
and distortions are everywhere

trains the tongue to treat *h*
as consonant clustering aspirationally

voiced and voiceless two character plosive not melded
but single-wound copper core

Cat as cowboy
astride

the white chickens
Th as in *thy*

thick
compound form I

we freely
take

Too hot to paint corrugated
last month

Too wet now in back to whitewash
or paint the doors

Entire green islands fleck off into black catchment
Sintex yellow print

tin roof in the rain
too wet to paint

Romanized orthography botches
epenthetic lot extension

Nuclear minority Romulus and Remus same she
produces wastes

pesticidal garden pathology
of another plot

down the garden path
switching on the pump

Starting construction the field next door accommodates
another giant concrete abode

outdoor tube-lights
fail to explode

The blue scrap the bottom four shelves
behind the bed

damp down
mutton bone *thlone*

The house a dacha though in the city
limits the city Salzburg *Sma ksem*

Mozart there Julie Andrews
fashioned love out of drapes

what is it Salzburg ringed by mountains like a berserk
Maypole

microtonic doe outpost sustaining
rural health mission stropping youth in clime

The red light atop the black plastic speakers' subwoofer beats
in waltz time

jaggery candy striper wound round spindle
three men in basement rooms the *krum*

I think in America you don't see very many ladies in saris
there is no more native dress anywhere I think only India is beautiful

Morse bill of lading
Ezekiel trading

The light is fading
The bed is mading

The heart is beating
bp-bp bp-BP!

Chattering
teeth

like polished teak
repeating reap