# Bard

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nipple areola raincloud morning glory drenched skin of pure color to touch with a searching tongue as if my god we all were hummingbirds and who will be you and who me the soft color the wet color the beads of a snapped rosary of pure water fallen into, is it concave or is it convex only the tongue can tell.

So measure manyments each one to whistle at a passing moon such mass of light concentered in pale space— Apollo's glimmerous sister amends our tryst.

For we have no light of our own in here, *in corpore* dark meat jostles and caresses, inner offal under optime skin, ah, you make away with word when you pass by, all my gravity is overhead or out there where horizons lurk, to scare you if you go so far from me. My gravity, my motherlode, and what is missing from such trinity? To know you ofter then the week's at peace. Packs of trail mix, water bottle on the bike, you don't remember when they called it a canteen.

An image does nothing, it touches. Or means no more than a touch does, here, a wet fingertip on your wrist as if doing dishes only shamans do right.

Be a priest of me a vagrant member of a weird cult whose only –ology is you. We do what we do. For you.

It is like an animal of us a soft part of the body a phonecall from somebody else's mother. Everything is a warning.

But everything's a sort of kiss too. Who, you? Yes, you. You seem angry: farmers smash cabbages on highways, cabbages and sugar beets as if a great green animal had bled to death on our way to where cars go

like thoughts of desire through the pudding of the brain the sharp steely-edged aperiodic symmetry of the quasicrystal Mind.

You don't look the least like a flower but you're made up of them, Blodeuwedd, I haven't kissed the consonants of your name in years now, so many years. Yet not one flower (one vowel) has ever wilted.

Is a word bigger than the mouth that speaks it? Does a kiss tumble all the way down the spine? We know nothing of the dark inside us. Alchemy is skin it is changing colors into light again, changing light into substance, then turning matter into you a nanosecond faster than time.

So anything we think

we know of one another

hasn't appeared yet.

We are always just

a few minutes before ourselves,

a breath before the beginning.

12 October 2011 (late)

[Not that we're counting. People have nothing to count with but each other.]

Once he lost the measure he had another thing, When he lost another thing the sky was grey with promises children all over the street sirens, sudden puberties flashing lights, ambulances, porch swings, the grave. Then another song. Then more. Where grief knows how to sing. Maybe measure is best. Genuine granite. Even the meekest orogeny. Touch her, she's almost real. Or at least realer than he is.

#### ====

But the bother is a sailor her curtained cabin vague with 'orient' 'mangosteen' 'desire' other labels.

You see her silhouette below the swinging lamp you know all at once she is the opposite of the sea.

Come back! you cry through the porthole and wonder where you are here in chill air on deck in the dark. And you wonder if you are anywhere that someone could come back to.

Open season on remembering slain memories sprawl at roadside some still breathing. Shovel fallen oak leaves over them, and maple tulip ash and linden till you see nothing but the actual colored gorgeously dead. And from this red and yellow under the blue October sky your new mind begins. Primary colors, nothing subtle but the taste of tomorrow on your tongue.

Never to bury it either or waste a cummerbund on a corpse red ocher of Rousillon paint my sides with that.

14.X.11

What did I know and who did I know it in, the seeming peace of birds the seeming turbulence of streams after rain. The seeming indifference of the rain.

What did I know and who knew me so deeply there could be a tree of me, a Solomon Temple of wet sand that dries out and blows away but blows away in holy air.



An so beneath the wooden bridge a river and beneath the river another bridge and who know who takes the low road and from what upward yearning that sunken covered span protects him? And why is it a man? And where's he going?

She stepped into the reflection of the river and shivered in the morning air washed clean already by what she had seen the ripples reflected on her skin. All it is, she thought, is light. Or all we are.

Go back and catch that thought three thoughts ago gone already where do they go with the monarchs to Mexico millions and millions of them all identically different. Catch the thought next tim as it comes right there sipping from autumn daisies at the door of the mind.

Almost as if it were reaching for me the wind comes. Using the subjunctive it lifts an orange fallen maple maybe leaf. What they call sandarac in French but what do they know of this wind, delicious, chill, tentative, octobrine, optative, full of faith in meadows trees that are still young, growing, brash, an adolescent wind, new, still some muve flowers on the little tree, shock of a bird passing, too fast too close to tell what name. Maybe no name at all.

Puberty is hard to remember.

Girls suddenly looked different on the screen.

It became hard to sleep alone.

And then I was old

and stopped waiting for the mail to come.

How can a man or a woman looking at the moon be lonely? The solitary night's so loud all round them. A house all lit up far away—now that is loneliness.

Trying find dawn in the west and the trees are glass trees and the air is somewhere else

what can you hand to the porter who is just there to let you in you enter and he's gone

before you can think of a gift a pourboire you think of it though in that place there is no drinking

nothing to drink in a forest of glass.

## PATRIARCH

I was this man and the sheep were shorn

I was that man and the dawn came down

this man had a hand that opened the rock

this man had an eye could see what wasn't there

Time is opaque but thinking is keen

this man's desire could slip in between

then there was nobody there and I called it a desert

I called myself religion I called myself a man.

## POETRY

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Poetry is an alien speaking English. Angel or devil, foreigner or God, it is an alien energy in a mother-mouth.