

from *Sonata*

the figure  
I can see from here  
is pegging wet underwear  
to a line for drying  
in the no-wind of the season  
in this naïve painting clean  
& warm/ing to ward off the inside/  
outside good & god was taking notes

I felt  
    yes these things are  
animals in that ground the sky  
but no wait much higher  
& more powerful & faster.  
that's a/a pretty mark. jet. the  
deity. a machine. the deity was  
inventing conspicuous beauty.  
praise him. & his mother.

& it's hopeless. scuffs. shreds.  
but: flick through the detours  
abc of ornateness depth  
without tears. that thing's not  
alive it's a house. those things  
in it are doors & windows to go  
in & look out. & from the  
shopping-list in the bottle?

fear. that's my green pen. that's  
my job. please a little quicker because  
I am in a hurry. how much? keep  
the change. stand back. please  
I would like to have my hair  
shampooed too. please I would  
like a massage. mind my moustache.  
stand back. I am a merchant.

are you a manufacturer? I am  
interested in yr goods. lattice-  
patch. odes epodes ads.  
*le seinm na gcuach ar bbruach*  
*na gcoille go sámh.* my previous order  
was not executed exactly. give me  
a French coffee please. that's good.  
have you jams?

*objects in mirror  
are closer than  
they appear*

printed on my wing  
mirror in white ink  
& moves over what  
appears there  
moving

crest & swoop

a playing mantis

a host of golden  
raffle-tickets  
pinkish dust  
landing different  
ways around white—  
stylus to palmleaf—  
this is the life.

(had it ever will be)

+

(I'll was wont sought possible)

=

(the wallpaper)  
if only we could see  
reason.

working in a corner at her desk.  
let's discuss this more than/she  
did say/dancing on the water-paper  
surface—&—in full flight... ah!/  
a book—notebooks opening—the  
concentric circles bedded in the  
flowerhead. will get you a career.  
next please. thank you. move along.  
& it's a great laugh howling for  
Injustice in the Land of the Golden  
Treasury. piano-ripple from a kitchen  
window over a wall. so be it/she did  
say in Kikuyu no word for *thank you*  
a thing given is given so what each  
arriving lie gathered undiscussed  
vertical to the centre of gravity  
tubes bars rods a stirrup in bight  
to minimise damage/fit the cup's  
lip to yr lip so that you know you're  
not dead. pay the bills. close the door.  
don't break the surface don't shuffle  
the pack. just stand back. each grass-  
blade tilts either this way or that  
from its tether. I've been around.  
dent, pock. then something else happens.  
Goodie-Two-Shoes. it's yr duty. it is  
not. circles meanders blunders into a  
lamp the fly hits my head. seeds shiver  
then settle the sound the comma makes  
being made, that message of discomfort  
in yr lower back (I mean lower soul)  
not this ferocious rain-drama of the  
tropics slamming onto my one tin roof.  
& then went down to the ship. (& put  
my hands in my pockets)

*multiple gold-black bars*

*dis/reappearing*

*in clear*

*blue-green*

*under a network*

*of small disparate water-*

*flashes past a ferry*

is that a haiku?

dancing  
    singing  
& playing musical instruments.  
    writing & drawing.  
tattooing.  
    adorning an idol  
with rice & flowers.  
    colouring the teeth  
garments  
    hair  
nails & body.  
    fixing stained glass  
into a floor.  
    making beds  
& arranging carpets  
    & cushions.  
playing musical glasses  
    filled with water.  
picture making  
    stringing garlands  
& preparing perfumes.  
    magic or sorcery.  
cooking & sewing.  
    verse-making games.  
the art of acquiring  
    property

by means of incantations

& shaving the white wood  
smooth in the shadows

a book  
is a  
number of  
sheets of  
paper  
bound or  
stitched  
together  
a list of  
horses  
entered  
in a race  
a pack of  
goldleaf  
six tricks  
taken by one  
side  
a bundle of  
tobacco leaves  
cut in  $\frac{1}{2}$   
longitudinally  
& without  
the  
stems  
unoriginal  
according  
to rule  
literal.

SONNET

at the Rhapsody & Squash a tankard yes & a  
dog at the door: *fuck!*            *fuck-fuck!*  
*fuck-fuck-fuck!* at The Flowering Blast

a nip at The Gap in Your Understanding  
a sore toe & a quick mind or that must  
have been in The Mottled Earwig who will

agree with what next? continuing on in  
in a (strangely revolving) silence so send  
help. to The Piebald Piglet. at The Legless

Egg a glass of diminuendo mountain cascade  
in the materials the difficulty under a  
cone of light scratching a history: swollen

knuckles of an old man's hand. this one did  
that then. & then that one did this. & then  
& then. love, life, happiness-&-grabbing & a

grippingly bitter tender thought on *fuck-fuck!*  
tenders lost. behind the shop at The Dank Stump  
recording from across the street in The

Turning Worm in detail in impotence under  
the table where I tell you  
this.

sirens brakes impact at full speed  
the police keep busy bless them that's a roof  
over my head not a leprechaun's inkcap

or part thereof deft steps & confident  
up there atilt on broken slates to  
keep the rain out & the clouds in place

posted a parcel to Berlin dreaming that  
book arrived intact too out of the blue  
by the way cheers I must type this up

in italics sidedown because the other  
daisy wheel's dandelion forsythia broom  
yellow for beginning green follows through

they say but let's not swallow too many old  
idylls like well they should look to their  
health you know me Mary having the gods in you

isn't all that

odd