

# STEP<sup>PING</sup> TO THE LEFT OF ONTOLOGY

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Harness the power of quiet.

– Jazmine Linklater, *Future Notes Towards an Alternative: a manifesto*.

Irreverent diagrammatic anaximander

a note

stowed away I was —

had had a feeling

Time ends and began in the innards —

peristaltic progress negating

auto-affective peregrinations

Trapezoid buoyed

to rest in fallacy —

active forgetfulness it would be

fun if not for the proviso —

We were signs taken by wonderment

We were starts hastened to fall down —

Should be astral travelling

with moons around —

our elbows famed attraction

A mess missives midrift

of planks

over the wall

we are whimpering foxes in the quarry —

The yogi asks me to get back to my breathing  
it is illegal  
to not obey metaphysics  
    our search for de-ontologised    </futures>  
against our knowledge  
    that we've been locked  
in the death of time  
    its scentless performances  
of accelerated information  
& whizz-banged task management  
we sought out the minor  
doors towards the horizon  
where we could become changelings.

Reduction to loam

we could be [  
proto-grammatologues I see you

deferring and differing the shake of the task  
of the task in the trace of misery beams

Suddenly to be cockneyed / a chicken-by-bow type  
of situation eggs the question on basic demands

four bare necessities: live, laugh, love, let-go. ]

we all tried humour  
doing the Einaudi  
on a make shift ice shelf —

Existenz is paused

to be free in the ruin or to hold the popul vuuh  
following the guidance to re-allegorise the allegory —

Held close in the water  
saying flowed between repulsions of skin  
which we were feeling as a quantum moment  
of contact just to be unthinkable and thinking

— we address the constraints  
trying to reckon with the rekhet in rechtsphilosophie  
the waves of acid in an ocean of mitochondria  
— or druids from our inner polis

We were trying to hold each other outside of time.

Far off shall we go  
to decolonise normative living  
with anti freeze  
on my armpit hair

and an oven glove  
on my left hand when it speaks in ink

</RX>

it is never done but stays in the saying

To write poetry is to move into the air  
</ resist nihilism's endgame of deracination  
& to address you in poetry  
with and as endless spelling errors

/>

abreactive code for dissent  
melismatic ostinato of mantric wove

we syncopate together in what subtends  
as a quotidian readerly poetics  
we take notes when words make worlds for us  
and we moved in concrescence / –

somewhere over the hill it was so easy

then the red tape was placed over our thumbs. />

We acknowledged a mutual respect for books  
the pages of which we were rendered unable to turn  
our mouths taped over with read as we tried to utter  
the unutterable protest against the anti-protest receipts. />

</SAA>

## The state of apology – and we were chained

in and by it

## ~~ergastulum~~

to speak of and at the threshold of the haptic

Asiatic negritude to unmake thingifications  
wilt to knowledge

## deserts in the sky

[Braithwaite's breath waits]

yes the impulse to meander

or circumvent gangrenous landlords

## demiurgic non-compliance — pessimism as epistemic decay

Houseplants wiggle in the draft  
offering critiques in face of dust  
/ supervenes the regulatory board  
defined as juridical flowers  
resting on the succulent globe

détourne />

the object from prefatory withdrawal  
a teleological suspension of the poetic  
to get back at the sutured essence

take the leap into the grey  
growth felt as an implosion  
it was not meant to be like this  
we were made to be held together —

Democratic abscissions of the spectacle  
to be human is to be untimely  
to be post human is to recover semblance  
it may not always be the best thing going  
but sometimes it is necessity that prompts us in movement

To be on the laterality/  
shifting the geography and its psyche of **Dasein**  
• it means to break through the sign continuum  
*go!* to the future where exchange is oxygen—

To've been in spirit like barbiturated sharks  
in the bi-odyssey of race liberalism  
put out of play

### ( tideialectics )

failure in the moment of articulation  
*lock arff'd* in meta critique  
burdened or limited by manhood as irreplaceable

Or in the mansion of absence  
golden guild of legalised pocket collars  
whence mystic writing pads a-shore.

Careless ecological sense faculties  
giving little-*a* an economy or a chemistry  
thorough or rough we went there  
though we thought in the going of it  
life was in and of a slant  
    a gap    an interstice  
at an impasse  
    quoting each other by chance  
*scilicet* orthogonal  
    rust in urbane plisséd mauve skein

& you and I everyday  
virology visits periastron of diphthongs

—  
the self in the care praxes collections  
Having been or will become the had of

≠

anonymous textuality predicates endeavours  
devours or descends into the scene of

—  
variations of silent monologues  
alien material that doing the explanation with

[

some scene of the de-construct  
left in the waning b-line there was

a problem that could be conditional  
urine alchemical proffering to latitude

]

wherein forged was the rhapsodic  
decreation in the pharmakon

+

Śūnyatā moves in promethean prolegomena  
in the struggle of continuation

</

where we took it all too seriously in the grip  
to move passed cherry-picking which samples we're in.

In the meniscus </of your knees  
closure became indefensible [

—  
swines without spines  
;      goes the annoying fly  
</

the undead sociality,  
we should talk about it

that we know what we are in  
in our attempts at undoing it

troubadoric modal complaint

that we were undone by it  
as soon as we felt it's space

(having been about to fall in the opening of your eyes  
[indefatigable and indecent homines sacri

Wondered wherein  
we were of Southern Kemet  
in search of the opening of

</ka

at the moment where beyond justice  
seemed fated  
    occurent of worldliness and of world loving  
we the people wondered  
    into and of the same  
whereof [  
    the burlesque style

]

Love is the form of the global public  
reclamations exist  
    in queerness where we were all in a traced origin  
chasing to stand apart or there apart from  
    to breathe  
    is not to work  
refuge in the -ing

    hubhub in the roads  
a repartee as the decks turn over portable as sound  
esurient for a nutritional stupefacent i.e. the dance

</no sa7/>

we broke away as soon as representation was afoot  
Fuckery at hand cause duppy know who to frighten—

Played truant w./ austere pre

positions-

spurious and

- under-valent w.o./ disclosed unity

as lacking sovereign or soft thinking

wherever we are or will come to on arrival

schema of indecision

I was saying I love you / said you felt it too

I wonder when we will meet again [saying]

but for now to have digitality between us  
plugs the others into each contact / con tact

- dismantling the reconstitution of identity

wrong overturn in the beyond right principality of

something known as a wipe off boot

mud over the flecks of shadowed embrace

*Is* played truth and sea

in the abyss of prudence

not to be contrary

stitched crossed hairs out of navel grapsin' –

Bumblin        were we in the ono-matter  
like bees in the middle of rosemary flowers  
absorbing vial-lilac incepting with or as off-beat

having melted the trees we were not  
in a position to retrain that thought

• wound up in the colon as globules of liver spots

To have bumbled in trudging through an arch-way –

Under-ray of the apricot sun's aura-glow  
an oracular function on low theories  
entangled roots post decay off-on the in-step'd sentience

fleshy with it like rhubarb we could smell  
fingers jostling for the rub and feel of it

- was something having been not possible  
to be synthesised a-priori but remain in occultation
- Stood over each working through each other

non-phonically by an alleyway to the cobbled street

- in a narrow dé-onto- without theodicy

In recognition came smatterings of ethernet potential  
given over to hyletic as opposed to the transcendental.

To say we are before matter

a divulgence of thought  
non-separable from the inhale  
whence exhalation yielded a reference

Held in the experiment

it would've been called  
declivity or in the interoceptive focus  
electrolytic earth  
damned to be in the wretch of it  
retro-kinetic in harmolodic stutters  
that was where it came unto be seen and conquered

]

magnetic strata of the out-flow

]

called you and you'd been all expecting me

]

bibliomancers with intentions hark to not-yet  
sub-epidermal reals as morphs of conjunction

</conjecture>

In the rue we row in parallel  
it was the end of eschatology

[anonymity]

—  
In-roads made of fallen statuettes  
maybe it happened to enter newness

(~~saying is the trace of said~~)

—  
Sufism of straddled threads and resisted in-shackling

</sa7>

    felt the Simurgh on our patch  
    work denim and therein slept

<sa7/>

    Home was never outside the minds  
    or found stilled in our hopeless flesh:

Puissant police handled                   / masked on-lookers—

Hypertext oriented  
in the league of genteel fascism  
Stop / ping!  
end to reconsider  
balance tilt to the right  
appease the pitchforked pride  
wasting away in fever.



In excess of said  
pre-discursive it was felt  
plural forms or styles  
we disobeyed received iconography  
what amounts of death we wouldn't live with.

</sa7> —

Exit strategy meetings  
minutes of small scales  
records on shuffle blithering  
paperless bricolage(s) palpable yet new clear  
rarities – it was the wage as form we were up against.

— <sa7/>

Singularities of percentile incense  
did not have to forego  
these opportunities  
perhaps we underestimated  
a majority share in the nomenclature / gnome culture.

In their brackets

we were plied

or splayed

to be reverent

to the display

or highly defined

Could not have

foreseen or foretold

/

it breaks back

along the current

disassociation /

Heartlessness

to say what has been said

all of its vanity

expunged in total denial

[A-Chiastic to not signify the para-de-onto-theological]

¶aciglocht otno ed arap eht yfingis ton ot cimsaihC A[

Undefined as people

we entered the less as stately

Over determined as things

we left our rights with them

Come to over stand that fear of and fear for are not equal

was how we caused annoyance or serious harms  
and the region should suffer us as we suffer its sentence  
</that>

we acted on and off inchoate coexistent  
[out of deictic]  
to escape            securitarian attrite macabre rhyme-them  
acceleration would be death but to think slowly  
</of this/that>            makes of a person a people.

## Bio

**Azad Ashim Sharma** is based in South London. He is the director of *the87press*. His work includes *Against the Frame* (Barque Press, 2017) and the forthcoming collections of poetry and prose *Ergastulum* (Broken Sleep Books, 2022) and *Boiled Owls* (Nightboat Books, 2023). His poems have been published recently by Stand Magazine, the Asian American Writers Workshop and Gutter Magazine. His prose has been published by SPAMzine, MIR Online, Magma Magazine and is forthcoming in the Bloomsbury Companion to Contemporary Poetry in Ireland and the UK. Azad is currently a PhD Candidate in English and Humanities at Birkbeck College, University of London and is producing a novel and a book of critical theory.