

SAMPLER

March

Also by Andrew Taylor

Liverpool Warehousing Co. Ltd. (zimZalla, 2016)

Airvault (Oystercatcher, 2016)

Future Dust (Original Plus, 2015)

Radio Mast Horizon (Shearsman Books, 2013)

Comfort and Joy (Ten Pages Press, 2011)

The Lights Will Inspire You (Full of Crow Press, 2011)

The Sound of Light Aircraft (Knives Forks and Spoons Press, 2010)

The Metaphysics of a Vegetarian Supper (Differentia Press, 2009)

And the Weary Will Rest (Sunnyoutside Press, 2008)

Poetry and Skin Cream (erbacce-press, 2004 and 2007)

Temporary Residence (erbacce-press, 2007)

Cathedral Poems (Paula Brown Publishing, 2005)

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SAMPLED

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*for Rachel Smith
and to the memory of
Keith Harrington, 1963-2014*

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Welsh Hills

it starts with a bell
then the harmonium

it is sunday after all

a piano wheeled
to winter beach
before being chopped

beyond the seven miles
the seven hills

at dusk quiet river
glow aside from
the blank field

patched with darkness

get a line to London
inland the birds
are circling

from the tower share
the view from the second
floor kitchen

watch the cloud roll in

Honesty Box

This is not automatic
it has to be earned

Capturing moments of sounds
and noises before they escape
through the ceiling

In the hopes of preserving something

felt tip painted nails
I will build a shared archive

Greenness of meadow
redness of terminus lights

Early morning empty platforms
prospect of four into two
a day on the network

wait twenty years to search
for peeled paint

Foliage insulation
good for cold May

Shell collecting a rippled shore
wash the finds in pools

Follow tracks in soft sands
keep the notes
focus on the corner chair

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Hold the seeds
to your face
walk The Pads

spot the scarecrows
spot the swallows

across to the city
see the cranes see the spires

there's blood there's soil
there are generations

Old School free range eggs
honesty box
pass the feather

let's always share

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Empty for Depot

At the foot of the proposal bridge
the path meanders

At the second time of asking
it was agreed

despite information and the essentialness
of cable laying

during the boiling of clouds and chimney smoke
on a cold day

you arrived and secretly I knew that light
would be altered

shapes would shift along the shore
and evening platforms

would provide desired reunions before trains
return empty to the depot

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Stickers on Notebooks

like clear skies
that turn to cloud
it is necessity

dig through sand seek lines
make camp

verge offers opportunity
West Coast Mainline

shortening days leaf
silhouettes against roofs

picnic near parks
picnic in motorway service areas

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Station

four tracks two fast
two slow

Island platforms
unmanned after
two p.m.

East Coast
Mainline

north to Scotland
south to London

we are
somewhere
in-between

watching leaves
twist in the
fast train
wake

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Blue String

seals the bag
contents slightly
damp

they will eventually
burn

despite rain
a clear view

she played on sand
summer past

grains shift

but love stays
the same

she wants snow
to build shelters

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Snow Castles

There is beauty in the steam pipe
It is somebody's magic place

a solitary walk
among distant breakers

will avoid the crescent queue

Unpack the bags carry the tree

the badge will be nestling
the coincidence of image

will startle

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A Mast Year

Despite the wind
 it is impossible
to fly the kite

She runs along
 the concrete path
that's been there

forty years

Though the orchard
 is reduced to one
tree the windfalls

mount up

they will make
 a delicious pie

The kite folds neatly
 away to be stowed
until we meet

during the remnants
 of the next storm

Medium Wave

Green retreat
along the canal

berries gathered
sugar to sweeten

a starred cardigan
first play

first two added

don't let them rot on the vine

beacon of return
with it drops the mist

at junction

curve sweeps the river
follows the line
south end reflected

slightly just
enough to know

it is there

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