

SAMPLER

Field

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Harriet Tarlo

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2011 and in 'Open Field: Reading Field as Place and Poetics',
Placing Poetry, eds. Skoulding and Davidson, Rodopi 2013.

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Penistone 2008-2011

edited 2012-2014

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Note:

All italicised text is “found”, unattributed, by railway passengers.

The rest:

A.H. Adam Hinchcliffe, farmer, Penistone

R.D. American poet, Robert Duncan

F.P. British poet, Frances Presley

L.S. American poet, Leslie Scalapino

Dransfield: Dransfield, John N. 1906. *A History of the Parish of Penistone*. Penistone: James H. Wood, The Don Press.

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At Pangeston (at Domesday, 1086), then Pengeston, Peniston, Penistone, the highest market town in England: a field seen by any train traveller heading in and out of town on the 29 arch viaduct over the Don. (*Pen*, Celtic for hill, here the great ridge between the Don and the Little Don).

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10 Oct 08

it's the Huddersfield side
of Penistone which is
the spectacular one

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31 Oct 08

that field
— patch of scrub
tree clump
in the middle —

murmuring in train, shift after
Penistone folk get on

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28 Nov 08

railway mornings,
three stations in, the
moment of passing
the field, heart raises
head to sight it, winter
sun crossing

it, wanting to

walk it diagonal

desire (drag-mire, myte, FP)

to be daylight

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7 Dec 08

match box standing in
 sideways, small power
sheep slowly walking
 the lee of the wall
winter dawn exactitude
 waiting for the field
come — and — gone

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10 Dec 10

train slows down
coming into Penistone

waterlogged strips under sun
trees cast shadows
back the way we've come

pheasants in corner
running to woods

flicks of green through
trees – sun full on
face

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30 Jan 09

The Plan — to stop at Penistone /
get off / cross over / head back toward
Denby Dale / facing tracks / walk
to your right / new houses edging
the Don / on the other side: the field
find the farmer? change perspective?

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13 Feb 09

shape changes as it grows

down to water

up to road

take path's route down

open and obvious

but allowed?

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15 Feb 11

early mist
on cold glass
eye to see
consumed
tree shadow

head throbs
strains
field
catch
is it?

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