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## After Long Silence

Stuart Silverman

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STUART SILVERMAN

*AFTER LONG SILENCE*

As an old print rises through the stone  
And sets its shadow on a random sheet,  
Carrying the past up from where the past has lain  
So that the present seems to stop in doubt,  
And workmen, congregating, talk in groups  
About the artist risen from the void  
While someone rubs the stone down to eclipse  
Whatever moved and quickened in the grid,  
So some thing I was rises through the bone  
Nudging the webbed interstices of time,  
And stains the outward being with old loves.  
The dull skin mottles, finding in the grain  
Those words you used in summoning the form,  
Which left no substance wedded to these leaves.

RICK FOSTER

*BEFORE DARK*

The texture of the cloud,  
Long-stranded, granular,  
Grey as weathered wood,  
Tells of the coming hour.

Above, two jet planes pass,  
White tails torn by gusts  
Of wind, providing us  
With emblems of our past,

Emblems of our hurt  
Love, blown high and wild:  
Speeding the gathering night,  
Flying against the world.