

Figures of Speech

“Keeping memory of the instant in which language
is pledged in speech” – Lars Iyer

Just as a speck of air condenses, becomes cloud,
right before your very eyes, just so
I appear before you

dislocated, disrupted, exposed
in this very moment
this open, this close.

Just as breath condenses to a vowel,
in this very moment, between us,
in the nick of time, in good time,
call and response, one beat.

*In the beginning is the seed of the Word
and the ground of the Word
and the howling absence of the Word
that hurtles towards us, to hold and preserve us
creatures who would speak.*

*Always almost too late, as if an afterthought
of some thought yet to be conceived
yet to be gotten by the Word on the World
World that opens to the Word that opens.*

*O prophesied proffered profligate Word!
Come. This Garden, this pair of dice.*

The instant in which language is pledged
before anything could be said,
in order to say, in order to take place
all at once and once and for all, just so.

I need to have a word with you.
I who am (this) greeting you
from across this (this)
here(t)here now

this great heaving current

now, between us,
unspeakable (yet)
undeniable.

The instant we speak
we are thrown so far
so fast so hard
so longing for home

The instant we speak
the lights come up
as if for the first time
we see each other
each one and only.

This instant
the world
is true.

Wit'ness

Words spoken in English
echo back ten thousand years
testify in the dark
to the error of our ways.

We who have taken the world
as given, as worldly,
mistake after mistake,
misgiving after misgiving.

And yet this
perseveration
could yet break us
bring us to our knees
in grief and veneration.

Listen. It's all devotion.
To think is to thank.
Believed is beloved.
Truth is troth.

Resonance

How our stories should be told. Perpetually, continually. So as to make their mark in the way of things, in the order of the heart. Tolled as invitation and intimation, as the enactment and the harbinger of peace.

Practice with doxa

At the torsion point
(yield) give way
(follow) follow blind
(stick) hold fast
(root) hold dear
(grapple) embrace
lead the other into emptiness.