

Bagehot Biology:

Slide Mountings from The Economist

lariats of fire (untying ebola in g minor)

fixed in stained glass,
or matted
in the micrograph,
the virus seems
an undone bowline,
a sheepshank separating
from its very self,
or even still a troubled clef
unwinding to the maestro's
consternation,
but maybe most a
koon's balloon,
abandoned in the making,
untwisting,
untwisted,
undead

Old Lover in a Micrograph (*Tardigrade Dyskinesia*)

yo,
slow stepper,
tufted as
an overstuffed ottoman,
pinioned as moss piglet
here, and there as
water bear,
i christen thee
potatopillar,
wacky barely waving
ubertuber,
air dancer bloating
to air ranger,
wrinkled as a
crumpled bag,
dried
burley leaf,
or worn
sharpei,
your alien mouth
a nozzle
somewhere between gasket
and gatling gun,
your tendrill claws
flashing tiny
t-rex jazz hands
as you float through space
caught in a tractor beam,
desiccating and
rehydrating as
chance permits,
forever.

direct to consumer (resistance is fertile)

to court your custom,
second your opinion,
and keep that hot rep coming
in my sample press,
i'll script your weekend
after your desire,
no earache interfering
with the plan,
presenting symptoms synched
by serendipity to course
or present not at all,
nipped in the bud
by our wise intervention,
brought to you by our sponsor
and by barefoot doctor soccer moms
again and again and again and again
'til superbugs turn gaia to medea
and she flushes us for good.

the bungling host (our metagenomic moment)

what does it augur,
our infested self,
two parts vivarium to
one necropolis,
for the imperiled wanderer
that bears us
on her back despite
our awful shifting wait?

unable to reciprocate
the table magic
of her misplaced grace,
but not for lack of scrying,
the brutal refinement of
our apostasy a
stone, simple in the sandal,
stubbing progress to a halt,

bringing down the house
with no barbaric
yawp or howl,
but just
a disembodied whisper
in amygdala:
my name is lesion
for we are money

John F. Sherry, Jr.

CARACAL GEOL TACENDA

2017

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