

**hain't**

Derek Owens

*Our interview – was transient*

*–Emily Dickinson*



**invoke**

invoke and conjure those with eyes more piercing, whose natures are more gifted

**conveyors of a loosely knit etheric build**

the dense matter is the conveyer of the undulations

**because a medium is a human wireless set**

her pupils contract in the medium-trance

**mesh**

air originally entangled in the meshes of the fallen snow

**skotography**

'Somnambulate, schism, scintilla, scotograph.' 'What is that?' inquired Helen.  
'That is an instrument for the use of the blind,' said the teacher.

**big as life and twice as natural**

the Author thereof was a meere heathen man, and directed onely by his pure Naturals when he wrote it

**index of motifs (when Caleb comes)**

a Spectre rose, whose index-hand Held forth the Virtue of the dreadful Wand

**reliquaire**

*reliquie*, that whiche is lefte

**be ever tetherd to adams off ox / for you are the control & the conduit /  
of this yr moon-guarded planet**

The Conduits of the Spirits, and the Arteries and Veins.

**The Firmament of Scientific Verities Both Horrible and Grand  
Spilling into This Earthly Crevasse**

A whole firmament of twinkling philosophers and philosophies.

**recipes**

Recipe this, and that; with a thousand things more.

**invoke**

& might we make your camera dance o  
pouting mediumship  
that you might taste of this our Room of Wondurs

label it 'ghost dialectic' if label you must  
we'll humor your revenant traps

in turn drop the vail "but a moment"  
& melt this spirite breath  
gainst the proffered tongue here / we go

\*

these impalpable aerial ice-fringed stings you  
& your congregation sense? neither figments, nor prickling hail  
but our Fingering Prints  
thinnest of petals sinking into your skinshells  
little boats adrift down twisty capillaries, the lungpath  
(can be no connection otherwise  
--and...  
done.

(that ripply itch?

-- you have *caught* me, sir!

**conveyors of a loosely knit etheric build**

some mosaic flame rained down  
fog rolling o'er the floorboards  
    -- the *breath of bees* --  
and voices-on-air inquiring  
if this hyper-psychic duel might soon  
commence

to think that mouth I so oft kisset  
is now biting into earth

our nine rainbow tears are dropping  
onto wax papers

o my human  
relatives is not the language  
of the invisible world some  
grand display!

1

My confidante. I have brought you today a little spiritual baby.

Think of it as an unexpected delivery -- found behind the barn!

No bigger than your palm.

The first living being in the created material world.

A presiding deity weaving a tiny universe.

Effulgence emanating from the transcendental.

Future site of battles betwixt inferior and material energies.

Hole on the topmost part of the skull.

Do you recall the dark, moonless fortnight? Those who die during this opportune period for death may rise up to higher planets, only to return, again, after death, to this our sad kind earthly planet.

If I should put a mouse into a jar with a good deal of oxygen in it, he would act so merry that you would think he had never before in his life felt so happy.

Literally: to return the Essence. To nourish the brain.

The variegated spiritual planetary system that comprises the major three-fourths part of the Supreme Entity's creative energy.

Pearl wheels (the testicles or ovaries).

Dust pill (the brain).

The most refined part of anything.

To crush the nothingness.

sometimes

my older human self listens  
with yearning  
to the beautiful countenances  
in colour and sound described  
by our clairvoyant friends.

To each his job!

*I am here you will see me under a curtain  
or submerged rock  
sending sheets of blue flame  
through your parlor room curtains*

*they did not wake up they did not find dreams!*

Now friends are you up to a spot of maths?

The telepathic wave =  $X$  .

$X$  is the coefficient of a ray  $m$ ,

a quantity absorbed from Cosmic Force (  $CF$  ) .

$X + y$  is my personal ray.

This ray of telephony is of a quivery nature outspreading  
rather like ripples.

As the Chief has already told you,  
it is hook-shaped.

Like fine-spun bramble-like wire

(yes, such is the “cobweb” you and other  
sensitives

feel sometimes

on your foreheads)...



nor does anyone “die” here so dramatically

a series of sieves or nets ever finer

this world is so lovely and as you perceive in flashes it is your world too

I am “promoted” as you would say on earth--a sort of captain

we carry our dossiers imprinted into the thought webs

Profiteers—

do not be disheartened. We are so fond of you, not only me but the others, the funny little ways you make us laugh--there is always a dry sort of salty backwash of fun going on in the back of your mind. It rests us!

It has been difficult to get through to you all this week mainly because of the weather conditions.

PS the girl  
who came to you last night  
is an advanced soul

and the woman you tried to help  
obsessed  
by an elementary entity

I tried projecting  
a power ray her way,  
but it is difficult for me these days.

Now we come to Cards. Now I come to Dreams. Here  
I lose a little of my assurance. We are in the midst of intuitive, therefore  
more arbitrary, divinations. And yet

the dream of ghosts of monsters of terrifying figures

the dream of the fire-brethren their fluctuating essences

the dream of fighting war weaponry soldiers

the dream of excessive fatigue kidney pain

the dream of music pleasuring

the dream of inextricable forests

the dream of anaemia

the dream of

a piece of the cord that hanged a man

Well here my protected ones, some recipes:

a little bag containing the eye of a woodpecker

a penny w/a hole in it

an aerolith (sky-stone) and dust from a grave

a.k.a. goofer dust

periwinkle becomes an aphrodisiac if eaten powdered with  
earthworms in meat

raw corn well chewed and put on a tumour brings it to a head

chimney soot mixed with good vinegar is a specific against chilblains

Hare's Brain: a good emollient facilitating the coming of first teeth

8 and we're done

above all please keep in your hat:

The black-eyed person

is both dangerous and deep

Magnetic slivers are being sent right now

from states of ultra-grace

The flow of blood carries

new magnetism-forming cells

The flow of the nerve-currents

carries the actual life of the body

which includes all memory files

that can and will never be lost

be these our candy promises

delivered down

like drop-a-lings

of silver snow!

**because a medium is a human wireless set**

The shuddering of a bomb awakens you.

Keep, whatever else goes, your centre of Peace; that, no bomb may shatter, even if the house were in ruins on your shoulders, for that core is the kernel of abstraction; it is Eternity unbreakable, unremarkable.

Sit there among the atoms multiplied exponentially.

Nothing shall dismay you—no not if the earth were struck by a comet to be sent spiraling zig-zagging ‘cross the gaping hollow of their heaven [lost in translation].

Try and ignore those howling moons you hear.

Flee with us into the blazing noon the pearly iris glow of advanced attention where liquid mind catches drifting cloud of light so as to blend the dark notes into a whirling grid of spheres.

Do not worry about the [garbled] geometries of earth ‘til you return cleansed.

I have to warn you beloved, the more you [lost in translation] the more you will attract attack from the enemies who seek to frustrate plans.

It helps [...] if you have refrained from cluttering up yr thought images with earthy obsessions as these tie you up like gramophones able to play one tune only.

Just keep an even keel in this sea of signposts.

We are all very fond of you.

People here soon lose any snobbery it is all too vast.

Take strength and comfort to those who at this moment are in agony of body or mind and walk in helpfulness and reassurance by the side of those sent hurling.

You are safe and shall be safe. No bomb shall harm you.

Keep da riddim.

## mesh

*sororitie fulle of phantoms laden  
suppositions in present tents  
multiply piquant hub evoke ative  
what remainst ynto relinquishment  
wd halve stoppe less tourning back*

inchoate      codified      :      solidifyd  
axes / inter      woven / affectionate  
whisper      ore      conunjuring



please yes & do make these earcups flying  
saucer sized!

the connexion : the cartilage

(the coroner

orifice

Deeper

than any hallow

*orangerie filament monkeys breth  
3:07 am LED amber warning blinkt  
triggers is to imprints as barred is to  
scissors hair lock swept caution couleur  
wheeze cart wunderkammer daymare*

crawl

space

it is a corn maze. air so dry as to be combustible.  
scratch each thumbnail thought across another  
white 'gainst red phosphorous. less for spark  
than scent. kitchens thick with sulfur echoes  
have been known to coax out headghosts  
slumbering in noggins. pull, tear, strike each  
stick. conjure siphons not from threadbare Empyrean  
but inside that/this awful well. *go thru the*  
*book entire* til a room's filled with all the bogies  
a mindpan can birth. the vessel needs  
a vessel if it's to secure a slip of gravity. pour  
contents B back into A, A back into 0 repeating. won't  
rid the bugaboos. but all this smoke offers  
respite, what their kind eat poetry.

*temporanimal ssh zone capable*  
*contention corridor sidereal thrust*  
*how w/ past endures endured, enduring*  
*a odd old grammar debris, glue bytes*

suffused // suffusante  
agrasp un-canting gape und absences

it is a pleasure to write again  
life has become harder  
a kind of tick that comes  
attending this spook's signature  
and yet it was good  
there are no takers for Gertrude  
woman as agent of sacrifice

i am grateful  
i am thinking  
i am developing out of joint  
the gift of time in the temporizing  
money begets money  
the manic wooing  
i don't want to be tactless

let us go to the ghost dance  
you crave to let history haunt  
ungraspable, compendious

as if already there as a before  
past as or absolute future  
not an invader not an occupier  
but *arrivante*

i am writing these words  
i take my clue  
i make my case

we have to cut corners  
we have to ignore the linen  
and the goat

i am grateful  
i am not referring  
i do not applaud  
i am able to see the problem

the table is a ghost

*happy upper airs peopled by departed*  
*ripening thy whiter grain*  
*fine in particle & rapid Vibratory activing*  
*outwurd collapting pheres*  
*siffilate suspirite realm*  
*siever spooking haraunter go*

s/hade reduser  
psychometry i e “the soul of thinges”  
excarbate intelligence deducer be

## skotography

Love is the [vibration of communication](#) in the spirit world.

The first séances were their own kind of writing, mysticism or science fiction in a time before electric lights or rocketships.

--Matias Viegene

a poem is

: an argument between the dead and the living  
: a machine to catch ghosts

--Spicer again

1.

how carbuncled  
the Memory Claim

of the black cherry mind

2.

[insert gif:  
cowboy twirling lariat  
hopping in & out of his wormhole  
drilling thru erth  
surfacing  
on the backside of the moon

3.

“Dear wife watch o’er our  
medium Buguet for false diviners are

harassing him at present.  
He alone is real. Can

see to the bottom of the lake,  
cut thru delightful luminous brain vaporette sheets.

From the depths he hoists a glass plate  
depicting clearly—none can say otherwise—  
a bright cage of speckters.”

4.

*My camera is a music box  
a Mouth of the Mooncrowd*

Mssr. Buguet at once confessed  
he had no powers

*(je suis un photographe d'illusionniste*

prestidigitateur)

a Chef of Sugars  
& gelatin silver bromide  
a concomitance, pre-history  
phantasmagoria puppet

5.

“So I told Zissou to wrap  
himself in a sheet whereupon  
he stood before the lens. I

removed the cap. I replaced  
it. Zissou goes away, I remove  
the cap again, without him

in the image. I hope to have  
a fine picture of a ghost.”

6.

*skotography:*

the term coined by Felicia Scatcherd: writing or  
images appearing on undeveloped photographic plates

(she press'd the unopened packet against her face  
entering intimacies  
w/unseen operators.

accompanying transcriptions or instructions from-the-beyond  
—whether dots or signs or squiggles  
that is to say:

*writtings*

were referred to as

**scripts**

aka

psychographical mutterances

7.

“...he sees thru the earth...they all do...”



## big as life and twice as natural

the biggest talker you ever heard

on the doubled bed fighting for breath  
keenly alert gasping sighing often moaning  
tape-recorder by the side of my chair

got that cocklebur in his windpipe  
she'd smoke & she'd smoke & she'd smoke

& he vomited the calf up  
& the snake had 65 rattlers  
they just grewed together  
them two  
trees

something commenced biting  
the awfulest head of hair you ever seen  
old timey dogs, a pile of dried peas

Evil Moon had a dog what couldnt see in daytime  
but he could see of a night

whod go to a cemetery at night not I  
not I neither  
I wouldnt for twenty dollars

& theres pictures of crows foots drawn on all them rocks

there was just a few bones there  
his arm bones, from here on down, and his skull  
there was not the whole framework you mean  
no not intact  
a dog could have drug it out maybe or something  
it werent no dog

preacher name of Bill Wood  
they say he was one of the wickedest men

“well, ‘y god it’s so.”  
that’s just the way he spoke it  
“y god, it’s so!”

if it were her she were a old witch  
she couldnt get in there  
had the door thumb-boldded

witches could go anywheres

yeah I started to say—

yeah they can do anything

there werent no witches back then  
no there never has been

well two of us here tonight seen em  
oh no no they've never been

oh, oh  
theyve never been no witches

theyve been witches everywhere  
practiced witchcraft  
they has. they has been around here

do you believe I cold wring a keeler of blood  
out of a clean washed towel

H\_\_\_\_\_ said it were the awfulest storm they ever had  
looked like a bomb went through  
like Hiroshima  
I seen it on television  
some man on had seen Hiroshima you know  
he said only difference there was smoke and fire  
after the bomb dropped  
but there werent any of the smoke  
as the tornado went the smoke, the blackness went with it

goodness what did they do with their lights and things  
everything flat on the ground

oh yes god can do anything  
lord can put you in dangerous places and take you out

you never seen meaner sons in yr life

there were an old syrup peddler down there  
and he'd got one of the nastiest women I ever seen  
really just as mean as the dickens  
he was about dead  
blood runnin out of his ears

it werent blood it was syrup

its red lookin the clouds are

you just tell me where those holes are heaped up and I'll go round them

those yankees always thought they were so smart  
didnt even know what a heap of holes meant

### **index of motifs (when Caleb comes)**

Animal warns of fatal danger.  
Big fraid and little fraid.  
Cucumber two feet long.  
Cured by putting lock of patient's hair in hold of post or tree.  
Extraordinary gate.  
Extraordinary occurrences concerning fishing.  
Faithful cattle shed horns in grief for death of a man.  
Frog tries in vain to be big as an ox.  
Ghost bites off woman's nose.  
Ghost pulls bedclothing from sleeper.  
Ghost laid when its wishes are acceded to.  
Ghostly cat.  
Ghost plays musical instrument.  
Headless revenant.  
Human eyeballs used as fishbait.  
Illusory sounds.  
Inexhaustible fish.  
Invulnerable cat.  
Magic violin.  
Magic object splits or cuts things.  
Magic paralysis as punishment remitted.  
Man runs from actual or supposed ghost.  
Reincarnation of murdered child as bird.  
Relative's flesh eaten unwittingly.  
Removable brain.  
Revenant as black.  
Revenant as cat.  
Revenant as dog.  
Revenant as rabbit.  
Revenant as duck  
    goose  
    lady in white  
    object  
    old man  
    snake  
Snake milks cows at night.  
Snake eats milk and bread w/child.  
Snake cracks self like coach whip and chases man.  
Snake has stinger.  
Snake kills man who has killed snake's mate.  
Son returning home after long absence unwittingly killed by parents.  
The lisping sisters.  
Unique prohibition announced by mysterious voice.  
Very long hair.  
Victims rescued from swallower's belly.  
Vision of dry bones.  
When Caleb comes.  
Witch in form of insect.  
Witch overcome or escaped.

## reliquaire

*When I consider that the nobler animals have been exterminated here,--the cougar, panther, lynx, wolverine, bear, moose, deer, the beaver, the turkey, etc., etc.,--I cannot but feel as if I live in a tamed, and as it were, emasculated country....I take infinite pains to know all the phenomenon of spring, for instance, thinking that I have here the entire poem, and then, to my chagrin, I hear that it is but an imperfect copy that I possess and have read, that my ancestors have torn out many of the first leaves and grandest passages, and mutilated its pages. I should not like to think that some demigod had come before me and picked out some of the best stars. I wish to know an entire heaven and an entire earth.*

--Thoreau

\*

tantalisingly inadequate

if this lack of consistency offends so be it

glaring gaps in the photographic record

murder

fast-growing mat-making industry

“birds cannot count”

“no need ever to run a census again”

the curiosity it aroused

there must have existed some entirely unrecognized factor

nobody is now alive who might remember

who knows which date of death is correct of course it no longer really matters

“characteristic attitude of repose”

nobody knows who Martha was

succumbed    exacerbated    atrophied

\*

in looking at

the lack

gap sight, empty, empty

“they splashed about and appeared to enjoy themselves hugely”

“a barren waste of sand”

“the desolateness of the scene”

“unconsciously we talked in undertones”

40% of the population

\*

“rare to kill more than half a dozen at a shot.  
When they wheel, however, in any of their more  
beautiful evolutions, they close together in a more  
compact body and offer a more favourable  
opportunity to the gunner”

4 out of 10

\*

“obscured as by an eclipse”

“melting flakes of snow”

render  
ember

remnant

fether

\*

there seems to be no record

buttons used for eyes

\*

“shared our meals, was well behaved, and stuck  
to his own plate always”

her corpse frozen in a block of ice and sent from Cincinnati

soon after playing the accordion one would fly over, perch  
facing him and remain within hearing until the music had finished

\*

on very dark nights “when several are hunting together  
they seem to laugh in unison”

in the drizzle especially

\*

grazed away

“he passes through the darkling underscrub like a forest gnome  
like a woodland brownie”

“the difference between warblers and no warblers is very small”

\*

o, o

‘o, ‘o

‘o’u

,

o,

yoo

\*

over half

& half times over

relic'd

\*

wyld

/

lyf

\*

“When Hornaday skinned the specimen, he  
discovered four old bullets lodged in its body.”

the modified assemblage





gray squirrel, virginia possum, feral housecat, domestic  
cockroach, house sparrow, norway rat, gray squirrel,  
virginia possum, feral housecat, domestic cockroach,  
house sparrow, norway rat, gray squirrel, virginia  
possum, feral housecat, domestic cockroach, house  
sparrow, norway rat, gray squirrel, virginia possum, feral  
housecat, domestic cockroach, house sparrow, norway rat,  
gray squirrel, virginia possum, feral housecat, domestic  
cockroach, house sparrow, norway rat, gray squirrel,  
virginia possum, feral housecat, domestic cockroach,  
house sparrow, norway rat, gray squirrel, virginia  
possum, feral housecat, domestic cockroach, house  
sparrow, norway rat, gray squirrel, virginia possum, feral  
housecat, domestic cockroach, house sparrow, norway rat,  
gray squirrel, virginia possum, feral housecat, domestic  
cockroach, house sparrow, norway rat, gray squirrel,  
virginia possum, feral housecat, domestic cockroach,  
house sparrow, norway rat, gray squirrel, virginia possum

**be ever tethered to adams off ox / for you are the control & the conduit /  
of this yr moon-guarded planet**

*Ours is the trace-chain. Connected to the whiffletree.*

I.

“During the third quarter of the 19th century, thousands and perhaps millions of Americans participated in ... talking with the dead.”

A paroxysm of weeklies, newspapers, journals, and bulletins for the new readership.

*Age of Progress. Age of Reason and Spirit Annunciator. Agitator American Spiritual Magazine. American Spiritualist. Beacon Light. Better Way. Carrier Dove. Christian Banker. Christian Rationalist and Theological Reformer. Christian Spiritualist. The Clairvoyant Family Physician. Clairvoyant Journal. Crisis. Disclosures from the Interior and Superior Care for Mortals. Easter Star. Evolutionist. Faith and Hope Messenger. Facts. Foundation Principles. Friend of Progress. Gallery of Spirit Art. Gnostic. Golden Gate. Golden Way. Good Time Coming. Green Mountain Sybil. Harbinger of Dawn. Harmonia. Heat and Light. Herald of Light. Hull's Crucible. Illuminati. Impending Epoch. Kingdom of Heaven or the little Philosopher. Life and Health. Light for Thinkers. Light on the Way. Little Bouquet. Living Gospel. Lucifer. Medium. Medium and Daybreak. Medium's Friend. Messages from the Superior State. Miller's Psychometric Circular. Mind and Matter. Morning Star. Mountain Cove Journal and Spiritual Harbinger. New Campaign. New England Spiritualist. New Thought. News from the Spirit World. Nucleus. Olive Branch. Optimist and Kingdom of Heaven. Ouina's Basket. Philosophical Journal. Practical Christian. Problem of Life. Progressive Age. Progressive Friend. Progressive Thinker. Psychical Review. Radical Spiritualist. Religio-Politico Party. Religio-Philosophical Journal. Rising Tide. Sacred Circle. Scientific Investigator. Skandinaviske Spiritulisten. Social Revolutionist. Soul. Sower. Spirit Advocate. Spirit Guardian. Spirit Land. Spirit Messenger. The Spiritual Telegraph. Spirit Voices. Spirit World. Spiritual Age Spiritual Analyst and Scientific Record. Spiritual and Moral Instructor. Spiritual Beacon. Spiritual Clarion. Spiritual Electric. Spiritual Helper. Spiritual Light. Spiritual Magazine. Spiritual Messenger. Spiritual Monthly and Lyceum Record. Spiritual Offering. Spiritual Philosopher. Spiritual Reasoner. Spiritual Record. Spiritual Reformer. Spiritual Reporter. Spiritual Republic. Spiritual Rostrum. Spiritual Scientist. Spiritual Telegraph. Spiritual Tribune. Spiritual Universe. Spiritualist. Spiritualist at Work. Spiritualist Register. Star. Star of Truth. Starling. Progressive Papers. Strong Words. Summerland. Summerland Messenger. Sunbeam. Sunflower. Telegraph Papers. Temple of Health. Texas Spiritualist. Theocrat. This World. True Life. Truth Seeker. Twilight. Univercoelum and Spiritual Philosopher. Universe. Vanguard. Voice of Angels. Voice of Truth Watchman. Weekly Discourse. Weekly Spiritualist. Western Light. Western Star. White Banner. Williamsburgh Spiritualitst and Progressive Recorder. Winning Way. World's Advance Thought and the Universal Republic. World's Friend. World's Paper*

& etc.

w/ various mastheads, proclamations:

“No party but the world—no cause but human happiness”

“Every Plant Which My Heavenly Father Hath Not Planted Shall be Rooted Out”

“a live, wide-a-wake journal devoted to the exposition and dissemination of the spiritual philosophy”

“The rock upon which Motherhood must rest. Search for them.”

“Organ of the Delsarte Conservatory of Esthetic Gymnastic and Gnostic School of Psychic and Physical Culture”

“its object being to enlighten and not to flatter the world”

“including...the spirit poems of Edgar Poe...”

a journal for children-- “religion without superstition”

“Organ of the National Developing Circle...especially devoted to the development of

“Break from thy body's grasp—the Spirit-trance; Give thy soul room—thy Faculties expanse.”

“such communications from Spirits as may be intrinsically valuable”

“It acknowledges no AUTHORITY but the INFINITE HARMONIA”

“Includes literature from the 'spirit pen' of Charles Dickens, received through the mediumship of the editor.”

a socialist community “organized by angelic direction”

“And the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.”

## II.

*in babyhood she hrd the voices / perceivd the discarnate  
thru a pipe-hole / of a chimney on her fathers farm / tests  
imposed included filling her mouth w/flour so it might be  
manifestly impossible to speak or use her hands w/out  
tangible evidence*

*her guides: 'snowdrop & 'pat' / 'birth is the A death will be  
the Z / in Life's Alphabet / w/out which there cannot be  
vocabulary'*

when a babe is borne a screen thru the fabric of the brain  
is created / the fragrance of a flower i am told is the spirit  
part

homeland or summerland is 'the 3<sup>rd</sup> sphere' / the 1<sup>st</sup> well  
thats the one we tumble into when we cut the cord / make  
no mistake its us who do the cutting / the Teachers, they  
dwell in the 3<sup>rd</sup>

are no birthings in the spirit realm / ours being  
the seed-world / one must *pay* to the farthestmost farthing  
/ for the harm is ours / the payment is ours

some are privileged to come back to the world as babies /  
passing thru experiences severe

i was not aware i had been asleep / am all in a tremor / help  
me by loving me / or do you miss your horses?

how baleful the light / how it blasts / uncle leon this is no  
hallucination our belief was true / take this purple robe for  
it is your habiliment too

do spirits weep you ask / why, is the floor not of the earth!

i am not reading you very distinctly at the moment / cannot  
see my way too well about Paris / wait / there / i am directly  
in front of you

let me speak thru your cupped hands / (indeed it was i who  
signed that 'X') / Teacher helped me make a connexion

i pulsed for a long time you know / i could have held on  
longer in body / but it did not seem worth the effort

you have only to lay a 'Comet Spell' 'gainst your throat /  
once at midtimes, again while making your toilet / we will  
get thru your gossamer wall / so long as your abstractions  
entertain

the larvae of the astral world cannot harass us / not the  
idea of them, nor the idea / of them not / one night i called  
but you wd not let me in / was that kind?

do not expect us to prophesy / ours no gauche fortune-  
tellery / our limbs are substantial they sprawl / about in  
evr'y direction / you shd drink plenty of water btw / it feeds  
the astral body

am sorry to say horrors here are far worse than yours on  
earth / decayings, faces & forms frightfully awful, heart  
armors rusting in this climate / hopeless cases that even

the League of Mystery Workers leave to their fate / their  
seed is true to its species

its a world of patterns, paradigms in strata / there's a  
region somewhere I've not seen it / outsiders know it as  
'heavn country'

how did I do that you ask / why first I borrowed a quilting  
of your mind / into which I dipped my kerchief / making  
jewelled pindrop blistered musings (youre welcome)

o terrible curiosity parade look upon that *thing* once  
believed to be *ourselves* / shred of flesh on the bones once  
lean'd upon

one day walking down an avenue of trees / for we have trees  
here / dont be stupid / i met a 9 foot woman she was  
weeping (we've tears here too) / asked her why she wept,  
she turn'd / I have been back to it she sd / her corporeal hole

we prefer the music of stringed instruments / but must rely  
on you down there to supply the chords / this music of the  
spheres you clamor on about so / it's true, is our oxygen /  
but it comes from blooded ones as yourselves

which is I? I seem to be / in two / today

two worlds touch & thru the inner / souls slip thru just as  
they did on yr moon-guarded planet / did you say 'passing  
time' / but theres no sequencing here

we have earned our vacations / Ive drawn a magick bowl  
about you / singing begets singing / musick in keys unheard  
in duller ears opens here

for evr'y vail / theres another behind / vail upon vail as it  
were / vibratory curdling / liken it to the wings of a  
hummer-bird

do you know what we admire most about your realm / the  
pollen

remember / love to a clairvoyant emerges as folds / of smoky  
drapery

& love / to a clairaudient / pours over the eyes

either way / you're swimming in it

**The Firmament of Scientific Verities Both Horrible and Grand  
Spilling into This Earthly Crevasse**

of a tale that won't die, afloat for five centuries going on six  
the pranks of schoolboys, punishments meted out to match their cruelties  
"as long as the world lasts people will laugh at you" (the schoolmasters)

a hurricanoe of sighs carried o'er the Atlantic, hang on boyo here it comes  
baggy pantaloons dangling from the masthead, thank god we painted the mirrors black  
blow out your poppy-oil lamps, take to the mattresses

trust us we've done this before, just sit on that paper egg for three weeks  
a wee baby horse will hatch, be yours forever you'll see  
(while idle, pack your noggin with extra down)

each day new holes in one's new clothes, patches upon patches  
come eve more rascals sexing under the old apricot tree  
yon cool green river that has comforted so many martyrs, so soon to stop flowing

any minute now the end could come, might be this hour might be the next  
heavenly ripe pumpkins asleep in the loam, riches better than gold  
nurses drawing our baths singing Life could be so awfully good, Life  
could be so awfully good

## recipes

1.

Before you write a letter!  
you must have the materials. A mosaic  
of thought, if you will.

*(this boy may have recently*

*“graduated”*: observe

*his mind  
aglow*

*with theories...*

& *any* room may be a seance-room...

2.

Sit at a table in a dimly lighted room with your face turned in the right direction as previously instructed. Place a pad of paper on the table and hold a pencil in your fingers, as in any ordinary writing, and do not resist any movement that may take place with your hand...

It may seem spasmodic at first, and for some time you may only receive straight marks or curves...

In all communications, use your own judgment...

If you remain too long in the trance—say, for half an hour—you can easily be brought to yourself by passing a wet towel over your face, or giving you a drink of water...

Sit at least twice a week for slate-writing. Use a small table, draped to the floor with a dark cloth; this forms a cabinet. Use small-sized double slates, and, after thoroughly cleaning them, put a small piece of slate-pencil inside, and then hold them under the table...

Persevere in your sittings, for it takes a long time to develop independent slate-writing; you may have to sit for years...

You can receive writing on paper by placing sheets of paper and a small bit of pencil-lead between the slates...

Place the typewriting on the table and form a battery in front as we have already described. Be sure to place plenty of paper in the cabinet, ready for the spirit operator. The typewriting on this book was executed by a materialized spirit in materializing séances, held for this special purpose...

3.

Now make your own ectoplasm!

ingredients

4 egg whites

1 handful wood pulp

3 mouthfuls chewed unbleached paper (tissue stock preferably)

cotton balls rubbed with "goose" grease, pulled apart into tufts  
(no *real* geese, please)

1 yard cheesecloth

milk-soaked strips of gauze

Whisk egg whites to froth in *wooden* bowl adding pulp, paper, & cotton. Thin with water as necessary. Pour mixture into baking pan. Coat cheesecloth and gauze on both sides; fashion into *forms*. Let drip dry in the outdoor air.

Variation: embed twine-bound forsythia bundles, ginger root, cat's hair & peppercorn inside the wrappings (i.e. plasm babies).



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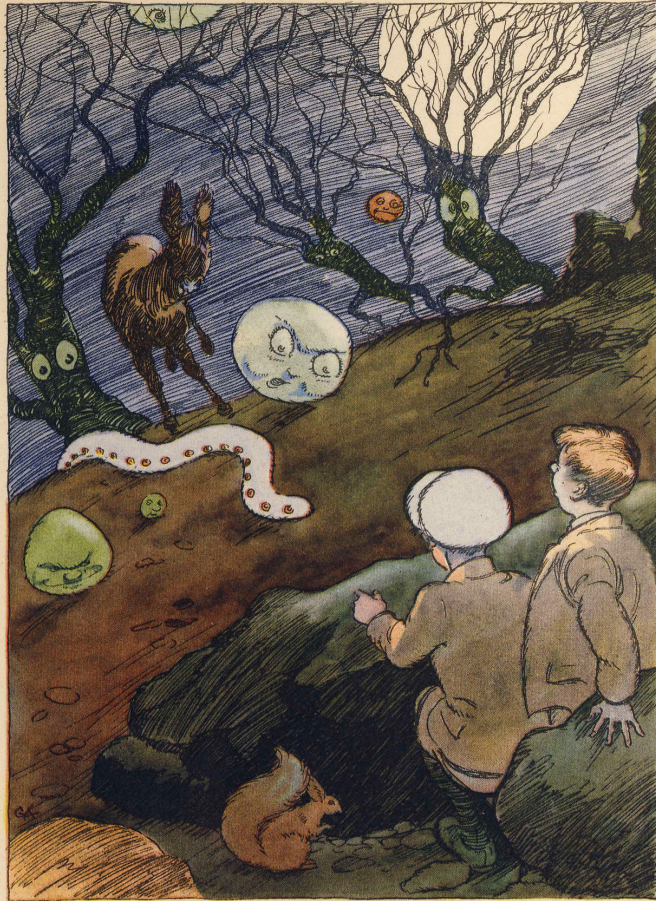
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STRANGE SHAPES HAD CREPT UPON HIM