

Bad Speech

Roy Harper

I was not put here - (by anyone)

By anyone in fear

I came alone as me

Just an idea

In a long chain

Of discovery

Surrounded by the same -

You

Sometimes your tide

Pulls me out to sea

And I die

In a trashing curse

Sometimes we are kind

More often I doze

- So far up the beach

That those who try to reach

Are burnt alive

In the searing heat

Of the desert

Of my dispassion

So far removed

I never hear the water

'Cept once or twice a month

When I see a mirror

And I refuse to believe

In some of the things

That are said to be here

Let alone those

That are not

I'm trying to change

My direction

Ours is pathetic

In my own humble estimation

I love the planet

The great benign she-wolf

Benefactor

Spinning gently on

Towards the red giant

Four aeons hence

When all the rose gardens

Are consumed in the flash-fire

Of flying time

She'll leave alone too