Animal Life

Shearwater

Born inside the gates of a family Hardened by a roman machinery Cast among the building sites, The coiling wires, the shots collected

Called out in the wake of a lottery Held inside a family gathering Mirrored beams and dog-like strength A wandering association Murmurs in the dark confessional And rides along the road, ephemeral As an animal life

Rusting in the shade of the batteries Hanging from a rope in the gallery Pacing down the balance beam Of half-remembered holidays

No rush of light or watery longing No joy in building, live in the finishing Reaching for an anodyne And half-reflected radiance To hide below the ancient barricade In chambers like the rooms a swallow made For an animal life

Charging down the maw of the ocean I want to come close, I want to come closer I held your name inside my mouth Through all the days out wandering But called back from the mouth of oblivion, Cast away like dogs from the shelter I she'd the dulling armour plates That once collected radiance And, surging at the blood's perimeter: The half remembered wild interior Of an animal life