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**from Event Horizon**

**Nigel McLoughlin**

7.

shallows dovetail  
spiny as becoming  
birthright or welfare  
antenatal palindromes  
of Arepo's opera  
for worker's wheels

turnstiles lead always  
to the cables of the gunboat  
and they load themselves  
with warhorses to send  
before the cart

thistles are bloody regencies  
of placentas standing  
like yes-men in the lurch  
there are millilitres of light  
pulled to the cathode  
of inevitable polarity  
cursing beside the chimera  
sunbathing among the opiates  
on a bearskin for the pure  
dowse and thrill of it