

Jordan Scott

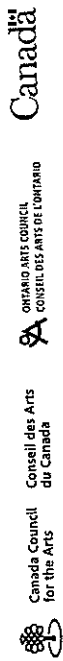
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first edition

*For those who do*



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I. Title.

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It is part of my existence to be the parasite of metaphors, so easily  
am I carried away by the first simile that comes along. Having  
been carried away, I have to find my difficult way back, and  
slowly return, to the fact of my mouth.

Their thick tongues blort, eyes squeeze grief, a crowd  
of huge unheard answers jam and rejoice –

*What's wrong?*

blort jam rejoice

*Some will not when by themselves.  
Some will not when speaking to children or animals.  
Some will not when they sing.*

*What is the utterance?*

Phonemes flounder briquette warmth. Tethered to seven molluscs, an osteoblast chomps into the burger of kelp's wreck; an osteoclast nibbles a puffin's scapula in mid-afternoon weight. Each webbed foot tussles, the soft hum of slipper on hardwood floors.

*What is the utterance?*

Dewlap syllables Mesozoic. The bilabong passes as guthg-ho through scaffolded throats, blotches lobule curves until Mesozoic ricochets cochlea, at a slow freight. The palate thermoregulates, camouflages, the antelope roll.

*What is the utterance?*

My mouth drew the swallow's panic. Chew pteryia. The spaces between them chomp apterium; gizzard beat Broca, Broca. Chirped electrode. Sing *funning*. Sing *furious*. Now, open your mouth and speak. Incisive fossa in labial turbulence, sing *funning*, sing *furious*. In neuroimaging, floplumes blitz. Now open your mouth and speak. Sing *funnions*.

*What is the utterance?*

What a poor crawling thing you are!

Buccal slinks into hoodoo. The dawn clots oort. Bruise syllabic upon upturned halibut, welded to sky curve. We watch, in a book toss, the yap blip, and in careful, clasp to each blurt, clug clug the sherbet angles of vowel's echolalia. Trash lip, lisp smudge: July, mucus, raspberry. Inside, a toothful jujube puris comma. We'll all meet on the tongue. We'll all meet in the tongue. Pickaxe plosive bloat and say: *b is for* by the mouth's slight erosions.

If you must repeat, blowgun bleat. Tip Phyllobates, masticate equation: word order = world ardour.

In frame, then frame, we rumba smooth across laminate as lamprey weave gorgonian pores. Above us, tunnels splaterrite muggy. We rappel, frantic drips to harzburgites, spelunk carpal a soda straw to outwash, we – excess, wine must have gestured influx, bent knee, hamates wicket delay; Roosa light plunder esophagus. We blitz horizon, the Petzl Ecrin sheds its carbon, each trona pinnacle dust to tonsil, our phlegm spicules, boil saline paces until strata suffocate and release from tile, until coragyP gyres, the burst of hippus, a corneal Richter, box jellyfish, fleck arrhythmic bambuca.

In chassis, then exoskeleton, we xongo smooth across marble as eel weave coral hole. Above us, burrow splaterrite humid. We parry, berserk trickle to harzburgites, spelunk digit a soda straw to brackish, we – excess, wine would have signalled influx, warped patella, hamates wicket crampoon, Roosa light ransack esophagus. We assault horizon, the Edelrid Ecrin sheds its monoxide, each tufa spire soot to lymphoid, our mucus spicules, bubble saline tempo until strata suffocate from thermoplastic, until vulture pirouettes, the shiver of hippus, an epithelium Richter, punch chironex, dapple arrhythmic merengue.

At some point you mention circumlocution, but my mouth just isn't working today. You say, 'Looks like a pinnacle karst, oolitic karst, a boulder choke of spitzkarren ahead,' and I trek textured in chomp, rappel lingual, and hiss a plankton paprika into the pitch of long words.

*Some whoop and flounder.*

*Hiccup the sandbag of each letter, ravenous for breath's  
wind-tunnel billow.*

*So all fondle the fables that promise.*

Dribble of spit trapezes C's geometry. Phlegm scrum knuckles  
hum; consonant gobstop corpse in clot. I know its textile from  
the typography of your lips: your scrunch an' munch, your  
Blistex baboon. How C Pezes snorkel until pfft-pfft belly-flops  
against H's amoeba rhythm. How, squat in glottal, I bugles a  
gorilla orchestra, and C cleats and pickaxes up from lungs. And  
how, in shame, H teeter-totters back into the warm of throat and  
still larvae A. RA-RA skiddles percussion. Each squawk box blorff  
xylophones nougat goo. Pancake fold vocal, garble lullaby:

Pukapuka chunder, gut bugs obese buzz: *Chachalaca zizz,  
chocoholic zest, chinchilla zong, chillastic zouk, chainsaw zing,  
Chechen zilch, chug zit, chirp zap.*

Nacho flip CH CH in a mouthful goiter. Tongue and canine  
boing-boing until CH CH knockout chipmunk achoo. Until CH  
hush crustacean and opera urchin fable:

*The chichara has to sing inside the mouth.*

*A trochanter accordion bellow: bubble-jet into your mouth dome.  
Moist timbals pus kazoo into jaw marrow. And you will chatterbox,  
blob the barbs of C with honey and herd glottal stops out the lips.  
You will learn to use your mouth.*

I find one in that field torn in two by the train tracks. Kneel down  
in the grass, and it leaps at me. Hold it by its middle, raise it to  
the sun. Legs pedal slow through heat.

I open, shovel bug on tongue. Swing teeth into lip. Cicada for  
Chiclet. Trident itch. Pluck mucus in harpsichord. Tickle and  
rondo obese on the palate, blubbers weather into my body: a dry  
rasp, lick of curved blue. The coxa, hot, jitters syllable, zippers  
cheek walls: CH, CH, CH hacksaws chichara into glossed walls of  
teeth.

If you stand in the grass with me. *Wait.* If you graze patella to  
crust, you will see my mandible rustle a quiet tectonic. *Wait.* You  
will see the tarsus machete each tentacle-bundled syllable. *Wait.*  
You will see the panicked pharynx ratchet the tale. *Wait.* You will  
see the inside: a stuck thorax, a tibia limp and ocelli lantern the  
fluent C – useless in the narrative.

chomp set

if you must have an idea, have a short-term idea:

- a Cocoa Puff
- a two-step bluff
- a fleeting rime

*glacial jiggy*

lactic acrobat  
pretzel lumbar  
licorice ganglia  
crackulates scapula  
calliope tremor coccyx:

crypt walk  
jaw arctic

Interac tracheal  
soundtrack:

ice-wedge Nebraskan crevasse

ligament wrench  
turret mangrove gambol:  
Morocco Morocco  
dust mukluk stomp

alveoli necking  
crust lithostatic  
six-pack copy that  
wrench tarsus  
jimp like that  
lichen cramp

fat burlap

fondle felsic  
algae cramp  
menstruate

moraine kickback  
litter scarp

flub hubbub  
mug Humboldt  
current hub  
upwell hummer  
bumble axial  
tilt jumble  
double trouble

tonsil box stucco  
dermis a glacial Etch A Sketch  
liplock knob  
bulimic esker

Weather pincer vellum. Blizzard octave: Spitsbergen Spitsbergen.  
Tonsils click hummocky, sound of hummingbirds drenched in  
glacial milk. At this time of year, ice gumshoe chin choreography.  
Chub flutter at ruckus pace. Chops drudge. Jellies blimp kisser.  
Barbell tentacles lasso tooth. Goo cuddle glottal. Gel cadence  
stickum outside the syllable: *and you will quiet, Lycra cinched to  
a manta ray, lazy, in blue-burn shallows.*

Lagoon waddles in chew. Harmonics vomit the rest.

Jug band collagen grunt gibbon. Gumslurp volcanism, aa as lumberjack ochre clumps mud flap thigh in thick spittoon octane.

Ski-Doo os coxae booms-a-daisy the calyx whorl in Rupp Dayco drive belt. Spew pollen. Popcorn cumulus glaze Brash Ice:

Frigid chitchat couscous goosebumps to fibula. Ugg walk. Unk unk talk. Jukebox cleft Rubik's mucus. Call box jowl Terris spit. Each bombast cheek pouch thromb amp protozoan. Adjectives drumlin tongue. Beneath the bergs, chatter scallop, a hypothermic gab against baleen's amphitheatre:

Tuktoryaktuk kerplunk  
prawn throat.

nankang break stand thaw nunatak

Imitate: frazil ice. Say clacra, frazil ice, clacracla.  
Imitate: muskoxen. Say flafra, muskoxen, flafraffa.

Urchin scattergun larval plume an iris-thick gelatin flops coral's cerebellum. Mesoderm gluts. Urchin bloom. Mucus hue, pink plume, spindles aerobic tentacles to chuck cocoons riddled with Ordovician retinas, haunt yellow as lilac grains. Plankton crumbs hum in current soak, pry buccinators for photophore hunt, or the syllable for gill.

Narwhal back arc spasms pancake ice as alder root sambas soil phonic dipslip muktuk harpoon croon sonar's marrow hip – dipped arctic cream bongs tusk knots.

Echo calving cuckoo, bllip chorus:

gales bend citrus as language in June  
hyphen tear muscles monsoon

bladderwracked glottal  
woofer snorkel  
the syllable pinballed

algae Tang

Mandible chatter, a Gatling hopscotch:

herring clatter buccal cove; yokel coconut acoustic

Plankton trek trachea, an ice-packed high-top waltz. Walrus flop tongue, chomp tusk onto ice sizzle. Air sac ebb: eco racket dome slow ice furrow, dorsal rip katabatic overflow, tectonic chattermarks rip-rap frazil ice. Mucus globs gumbotill until syrup sweet lymph between words.

Rehearse in verse. Horn spit. Rest. Speedbag glottal. Rise.  
Bumblebee yodel. Again.