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from 'Forced Fingers'

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III.

Stalk a
ground down
beyond
paling
where tres-

-pass goes
unlearnt
& trees
grow thick-
-ly above

their
fertile plain.

Glean to re-
-programme by
hook & crook,
snapwood
forestal

detects a
fallen
branch prod-
-uctive of
holy fire:

land, n. –
see 'grab'.

Swear I that
there did I
come in to
the barley
field & take

with me my
children
& there
carry
away

a
quantity.

Ward off
with last
sheaf, quick-
-en life,
be sure of

yield in side
predicted
field, our
little land-
-sheaf sung

to make
crops come.

Come then
into the
cornfield
& I will
console

thee young
Basilek
& tickle
you blue, half-
-garlanded

in cyan,
Prussian *blau*.

IV.

Spray-on this
culture's
chemical
rain dance
Panic &

fired, it
burns &
grows, grows
& burns,
trampling the

river's
fecund bed.

Quick &
the life in
liquid
apparat-
-us under-

-growing
to cover
a pop-
-ulace, skin
eyes nasal

&
cavities.

Take this
cultured
vat as faith,
a sickle
moon fall-

-en on
a lean to
temple;
a pop-up
populace

buys in
to it.

Pray now in
Coppe's end
of days when
money
explodes

in pockets,
blowing up
bankers but
also shop-
-keepers,

probably
innocents.

Watch,
though, The
City just
fucking
detonate

sky-scrap-
-er-high
& no more
shall we
worship

at visible
churches.

DAN ELTRINGHAM is working towards an AHRC-supported PhD at Birkbeck College on William Wordsworth, J. H. Prynne and the commons. He has published on R. F. Langley and Sean Bonney, with a book chapter forthcoming on Peter Riley and a commentary on Peter Larkin. His poetry and translations have appeared in *The Clearing*, *Intercapillary Space*, *Alba Londres 6: Contemporary Mexican Poetry* and *Scabs are Rats Zine 4*, as well as two pamphlets, *Mystics* and *Ithaca*. He co-edits [Girasol Press](#) and [The Litterateur](#).