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## an article definitely and other poems

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## an article definitely

the

the the

(beats of rain.a lonely sax  
on synth.crazy go)

the

the

(long notes.looped.a space

spaces

a multiple fugue on acid)

the

the making

offstage

the tumbling fool & all

the effigies of dead

kings & their virgin

daughters sisters wives

(the sound of rattling

dice for a simple

crown &

anchor.choose

who exits & chased

by

the

what)

the end of it all

the

the

## declining verbals

talking

through fog

he walks

& words fall.are broken

landings

(i is not

a different

version)

the

ripped skins the drums the

hole rhythm a scratch

& a rim

shot

(i do it)

he shows a face

a white

scream

i don't hear

(& all the clear

adventures

a wretched

blast)

nor bells

lining the alleys

(i tolled

the wooden boxes)

## duets for still voices

this		
is a making		(here
in screams		& here)
& yawned reflections		
a glass		(enter
shatters	a ruptured	the bearers
skin		with their
unhearing		pale flesh)
oh ring		(untold
for me now		the metal
& in		the
the sleeping		hard
rooms lie		
down		retorts)
this		
is a making		(here
bring		& here
crow's blood		again)
to simmer		
a goodly		(the liquor
broth		sings
for cold silence		unworded)
		(doors close)

## a skeleton crop

*(with thanks to Jan Stead)*

red  
they sing  
in  
    my  
        blood  
        garden

sow bones  
    a new  
    harvest  
they sing

        soft  
    throats  
spill red  
& velvet

unfold the hard  
nails  
to till  
a crimson furrow  
    i grow beans  
    & other  
        human  
        organs

let them come now

        blood  
they are & fresh bones dancing

**REUBEN WOOLLEY** has been published in various magazines including *Tears in the Fence*, *The Lighthouse Literary Journal*, *The Interpreter's House*, *Domestic Cherry*, *The Stare's Nest* and *Ink Sweat and Tears*. His collection, *the king is dead* was published in 2014 with Oneiros Books and a chapbook, *dying notes*, in 2015 with Erbacce Press. Runner-up: Overton Poetry Pamphlet competition and the Erbacce Prize in 2015. Editor of the online magazines: *I am not a silent poet* and *The Curly Mind*. A new collection on the refugee crisis, *skins*, has been published by Hesterglock Press, 2016.