

# variations on the word

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1.

the same sky towers  
that same disparity

the city despairs  
marks its distance

fills in the gaps

i'm looking for the lost fibres  
the materials that determine

speculative horizons  
structured relations

between you and me and the shelves  
they built of our ground

and up and up  
until we fled

and the soil we couldn't take with us

only breath

2.

*come on you, let's go you*

goodbye is a way to leave

light always fades into its opposite  
and the conditions under which  
never falter

*because i've forgotten everything  
even the way you feel in the dark*

is a cosmic reality  
a necessary tactic

a geographic arena  
uninhabitable arrangements

we breathe until we stop breathing  
and sometimes we breathe again

an array of opportunities  
an image of all that we lost

the rugs we left behind  
in faded grey

when you bleed and i

3.

when first the body  
frantic and painfully permeable

that first banal body  
a potential to this

collective of dislocated is sometimes  
representational

residual a memory  
made visible through history

when your outrage includes yours  
when first scripted then used to this  
when includes your this malignantly astonished

in back roads to  
when cut roads to  
or i or i or i or i or i  
to give this space

something to  
when the split screen reminds you

*come on you, let's go you*

in this city where renewal  
obscures the neighbourhood

the material is memory until  
progress is forgetting

and our collective histories

4.

they say we live in a world-class city  
where the economy requires us to be

hungry

familial  
but not familiar

you say you want a language that refuses  
an aesthetics that kills

we say we want to leave the city  
we want to live in a classless society  
we want to write a postcard that reads

*another world is possible*

*come on you, let's go you*