Letters

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Senior Thesis Course

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With each word they tighten their fetters
With each word they tighten their fetters
and lengthen their chains. She swipes the notes he sends her,
locked in shining sheets, somehow there
With each word they tighten their fetters
and lengthen their chains. She swipes the notes he sends her,
locked in shining sheets, somehow there
yet always beyond reach. Still she waits
with open hands, catching coin, never knowing
the lips from which each leaf is torn -
still, she prays, where spaces stood, his letters stand -
still, where once he stood, she withstands grief
With each word they tighten their fetters
and lengthen their chains. She swipes the notes he sends her,
locked in shining sheets, somehow there
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with open hands, catching coin, never knowing
the lips from which each leaf is torn –
still, she prays, where spaces stood, his letters stand –
still, where once he stood, she withstands grief
like pennies pounded thin, like thieving
hands and mouths mutely confessing
that most essential crime – the sin
of lettering love. Even us judges then
cannot set them free.
LIFELINE

written by Dave Justus

[establishing connection]

[receiving message]

Hello?

Is this thing working?

Can anyone read me?

Who is this?

I read you.
Narcissus and Echo

Shall the water not remember
my hand’s slow gesture, tracing above
its mirror my half-imaginary portrait?

My only belonging is my beauty, which I take
away and then return, as love teasing playfully the one being
whose gratitude I treasure moves me. I live apart from myself, yet cannot live apart. In the water’s tone, that brilliant silence, a flower whispers my name with such slight moment, it seems filament of air, the world becomes cloudswell.

--Fred Chappell (1985)
<html>
  <head>
    <meta charset="UTF-8">
    <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
    <title>Letters | Home</title>
    <link href="main.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css">
  </head>
  <body>
    <table>
      <tr>
        <td>With each word they tighten their fetters</td>
        <td class="letters"></td>
      </tr>
      <tr>
        <td>With each word they tighten their fetters</td>
        <td class="letters"></td>
      </tr>
      <tr>
        <div class="opt"><a href="/option1/enter.html">enter</a></div>
        <div class="opt"><a href="/option1/center.html">center</a></div>
        <div class="opt"><a href="/option1/splinter.html">splinter</a></div>
        <div class="opt"><a href="/option1/torment.html">torment</a></div>
      </tr>
    </table>
    <div class="visleft">
      <img src="/media/homeleft.png" />
    </div>
    <div class="viscenter">
      <img src="/media/whitecircle.png" />
    </div>
    <div class="visright">
      <img src="/media/homeleft.png" />
    </div>
  </body>
</html>
Let's write a letter!
I'll write on the left,

and so we'll talk side by side,
listening now and then,
taken half by half,
reaching past regrets.

together!
leaving
you
to
echo
on
the
right -
sighing
when
paths
reset.

Begin
Thank you!

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Bibliography
