

FALSE GODS AND FATTED CALVES

For the love of a woman
he held down a steady job
by quitting the wild life, cigarettes,
and abstaining from any alcohol
stronger than the droplet of a Bach flower;

Crab Apple and Aspen
for his paranoia and compulsions,
while she squirted her tonsils
with Rock Rose and Beech
for her claustrophobia and self-indulgence.

For a month she worked on his blocked chakras
and had him vomit several lifetimes of negative energy
in a primal scream.
She taught him how to absorb the universe scented by Jasmine oils
through nostrils like cane-flutes
harmonising body and soul.
She convinced him that Saturn was the planet of the spleen,
Love was unconditional –and red
Truth was blue
Friendship was orange
Health was green,
and taught him how to meditate like an owl
until his body was truly a temple
fit for his Spanish queen.

Then after a dose of cystitis that wouldn't shift
for the love of Jupiter or cranberry juice,
she broke his unacceptable heart with the prognosis
that the recurring infection was a manifestation
of the self-denial of her real needs,
that the spiritual fulfilment of her inner self
required someone who understood that karma was deeper
than being landed with a hefty utility bill
as retribution for pilfering from the till;
someone who might share the nourishment of the spirit,
through sex in another dimension,

and if he struggled to grasp the gravity
of the cosmic forces at play,
she reiterated in short – he made her physically ill!
That she couldn't be happy with someone
who only did things to please someone else
and that he was as attentive of her needs
as a sailor in a knocking shop.

In a primordial display
of his nurtured appreciation of Spanish wine
he scooped a bottle of organic Alberiño,
vintage 1999,
then venting his views about spiritual fulfilment,
and how 'being at one with yourself'
was an emotional fire-exit for self-centred fuckers
he staggered from the room to oblivion
bubbling something
about the enlightenment of Tao-sex
and churchmen fingering nuns.