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Quennets

By Philip Terry

Carcenet Press Ltd, United Kingdom, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 216 x 138 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In Quennets Philip Terry develops a sonnet-like form invented by the Oulipian poet Raymond Queneau. Across three sequences, the quennet is reworked and refigured in response to three perimeter landscapes. The first sequence, Elementary Estuaries , is inspired by a series of walks along the Essex estuary, the poems appearance on the page suggesting the landscape s expansive esturine vistas, its pink sail lofts and windswept gorse, beach huts and distant steeples. In the second sequence, written after a series of walks around the Berlin Wall Trail, or Mauerweg, the form changes to reflect the physical, almost bodily tension of the wall as an architectural and social obstruction. The final sequence, Waterlog , retraces the steps of W. G. Sebald through Suffolk, and here the quennet s newly elongated shape and ragged margin evoke the region s eroding coastline, its deserted piers and power stations, electric fences and waterlogged fields. Terry s project is bold in scope, his poems subtle in effect, a mix of sign and song, concrete and lyric, Oulipo and psychogeography. It is a work about boundaries,...



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