

332 PALMERSTON

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1/ THERE ONCE WAS A ROOM WHERE I PAID THE RENT, AND SLEPT OFF THE HEAT OF THE DAY  
LOCKED OUT MY FEARS AND COUNTED THE YEARS, AS THEY PASSED DOWN THE HALL ON THEIR WAY  
AND SOMETIMES I ROAMED THE CORRIDORS, AMONGST THE DARKENED ROOMS  
OPENED THE DOORS AND FOUND ON THE FLOORS, MY DOUBTS IN THE DUST AND THE GLOOM

CH/ IT WAS ALL JUST A MAZE OF OLD LIVING, SICKNESS AND SECOND HAND PARTS  
HOSPITAL BEDS AND NIGHTS LIT IN RED, CHILDREN AND SURFERS AND TARTS  
A WARREN OF KITCHENS AND BATHROOMS, WHERE YOUR SINS COULD NEVER COME CLEAN  
IN PALMERSTON ROAD YOU COULD LIGHTEN YOUR LOAD, OR DIE IN A CORNER UNSEEN

2/ AND I'VE SEEN ALL THOSE ROOMS AND THEIR CONTENTS, THE FRIENDS AND THE FIENDS INSIDE  
THE DEMONS THAT DWELL IN THE CORNERS, OF THE CLOSETS WHERE CHILDREN ONCE CRIED  
AND I'VE COWERED IN A CLOAK OF SILENCE, AS THE GHOSTS STUMBLED UP THE FRONT STAIRS  
PEELING OFF PAINT AND SMEARING THE STAINS, FROM THE CHAINS THEY DRAGGED WITH THEIR HAIR

CH/ AND THEY WANDERED A MAZE OF THE LIVING, OF SICKNESS AND SECOND HAND PARTS  
THROUGH HOSPITAL BEDS AND NIGHTS LIT IN RED, THE CHILDREN AND SURFERS AND TARTS  
IN THE WARREN OF KITCHENS AND BATHROOMS, THEIR SINS COULD NEVER COME CLEAN  
SO IN PALMERSTON ROAD THEY LIGHTENED THEIR LOADS, WHEN THEY DIED IN A CORNER UNSEEN

3/ SOMETIMES I TRY TO REMEMBER, JUST WHERE I LAID DOWN MY YOUTH  
WAS IT IN THE NORTH WING WITH THE PROUD PRATTLING, OF IDEAS, FALSEHOODS AND TRUTH?  
OR MAYBE I DROPPED IT ONE MORNING, AS I TRIPPED ON THE TORN CARPET SQUARE  
AND SWEEPED IT ASIDE WITH THE PAPER, STRIPPED FROM THE WALLS OF MY LAIR

CH/ IT WAS ALL JUST A MAZE OF CRACKED MIRRORS, SECRETS AND SHATTERING HEARTS  
MARITAL BEDS, WORDS NEVER SAID, OLD MEN, TRAVELLERS AND TARTS  
A WARREN OF WHAT-IFS AND MEM'RIES, WHERE YOUR SINS THEY COULD NEVER GROW OLD  
A MANSION OF DREAMS AND HALF THOUGHT OUT SCHEMES, OF MUSIC AND STORIES UNTOLD

CODA/ NOW IT'S NOTHING BUT DUST, STEELY VISIONS THAT RUST, AN IMAGE THAT FADES WAY TOO SLOW  
STILL I CAN'T IGNORE WHAT WAS BEHIND THE DOORS, THAT OPENED ON PALMERSTON ROAD