| | Hellion, Seeking Silence

THE ELECTRIC CITY AT A DISTANCE

I can see the entire Bay Bridge Feeding An iridescent neural pathway into the twinkling and grandiloquent mother brain The San Francisco skyline.

Well, I don't see it now... But, I see what I saw An afterimage imposed on irradiated irises The damage from having dared to look myself (no, my self) straight in the eye Mirror neurons burnt Just a pixel graveyard from a too-persistent image limned on phosphorescent grids.

A ghost, my vesper This lodestar, my scar Returning like the small white orb to the 00 pocket on a faulty roulette wheel.

For the view from this window The unethical and elite would cut more than just checks

For the view it casts retrograde For the inbound insight uninterred

... They might pay far more, still.

The Best Lies We Tell Are to Ourselves

I am the notion of "exception" having collapsed lamely into itself Having lapsed as 440Hz layers lapse and overtones cease to craft a timbre An osmium lump in my throat the moment I'm to snarl sable sedition

A mute witness to my own pilfered pelf Having let splat the scream once poised to cast the cant in amber I was a god once, you know, before a halogen halo killed the shadow of my intuition

Half-light and translucence became me Before I became naked, silenced in stark light

Identity is little more than larceny

But it's hard to let loose libel with locked lips And it's difficult to steal without collusion with the dark

ASTRÆA

Lost in the grey threshold of earth and sea Rings adorn her færie fingers, she waits for me To adorn her iridescent aura with pet names and Spoils from a fool's fiefdom of vampires and peace The textures of papers and mediums, dyes and light Shy from her composite of pure porcelain and might And nicotine intoxication envies her ichor fluid magic hips While phyla of flora genuflect in her fey midst Without a second thought of transcendent nightshade calling Her attention beckons archangels in splendor of ink night With her gaze she can summon the solstice tides To do her bidding, to cleanse us of dross And to remind us of our latent loss Moonrise and sunlight, all redolent verdant vectors dance To herald her harbinger signal broadcast from will-o'-the-wisp lamps A visage fixed upon no one yet seeing all Clavicles delineate sacred sagacity from hastened heat, folly, and fall The life-force of a legion, the manœuvres of a doll

HONNE / TATEMAE ・本音 / 建前

	You are the vesper by which I calibrate my vector And under your ægis I cannot lose myself No way leads astray When I follow the light you emit When I place my faith in your well-told truth	Be who you we say!
Why can't I do this alone Stagnant cesspool	So long as there are seas to fare My seafaring remains both intrepid and fearless Because through you I know purpose Through you I derive meaning And through you I can relinquish thought if I so desire	Be yourself!
Image: Approximate the second seco	So, you must no doubt trust That I am stalwart in my confidence And certain in my trajectory And that no dam shall obstruct my current And that no nimbus shall dull my light	
	Don't infer that my twitches betray my calm Never worry about the downturned corners of my mouth There is no reason to infer that I am reeling Even as the world around me whirls Into an entropic Pollock canvas	Try harder!
You don't know what I feel God doesn't know I will take this to my fucking grave, I swear	This life is what I have chosen And I have chosen it deliberately In the face of conventional wisdom In defiance of the maxims of the many And I know what I'm doing, I assure you	
	These drinks, they free me These debts, they enable me This rhetoric, it empowers me And your consternation means little And, in fact, nothing really means anything	Stop!
I can feel myself tremble	Everything is fine I am stalwart in my confidence Even as the world around me whirls Everything is fine	We worry about you! Stop!

Hellion, Seeking Silence

	Everything is fine Because through you I know purpose Never worry about the downturned anything Everything is fine	
I don't know who I am	I present to you who I am And everything is fine This is me Everything is me	You disappoint us!

*this poem contains no formatting errors; the ASCII garble is intentional.

There's a Name for Mirages in Peripheral Vision

In a bind together groping Such audacious schemes and gameplans Underneath the hallowed moonrise Symbiotic psyches wailing In a bind together hoping

Alley-oop to conquer candor In reverse and borne of brio Of ebullience bursting starward Luminescent, drunk, and daring Heretofore to master malice

Benediction bellows booster Overhead contorting ravens Undermine our sanest sorrows Underneath protruding dream-pyres Malediction blasting morrow