

SAMPLER

*If Trees Allay an Earth Trialling*

ALSO BY PETER LARKIN

Enclosures  
Prose Woods  
Pastoral Advert  
Terrain Seed Scarcity  
Slights Agreeing Trees  
Sprout Near Severing Close  
Rings Resting The Circuit  
What the Surfaces Enclave of Wang Wei  
Leaves of Field \*  
Lessways Least Scarce Among \*  
Imparkments (The Surrogate Has Settled)  
Give Forest Its Next Portent \*  
City Trappings (Housing Heath or Wood)  
Introggression Latewood \*  
Trees Before Abstinent Ground \*  
Encroach to Restone \*  
Wordsworth and Coleridge: Promising Losses

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Peter Larkin

If Trees Allay an  
Earth Retrialling

Shearsman Books

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# BUSHILY THE TREES

2020

SAMPLE

*For Gavin Selerie and Frances Presley*

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

In the midst of working on these poems I was also absorbed in reading Gavin Selerie's *Collected Sonnets* which sparked off through their engagement, formal scope and virtuosity many poetic synapses of my own, in however distant a key, but, given such a stimulus, never so remote or out of range.



I

Rounded trees on contra-  
form screening, scheming  
to curve, no other  
avoidance

as blunted mast  
circles a distinct-  
iveness, inter-ships  
the domes

rotates the dressing  
a whole root-mass away  
from cutting edge,  
globe-shaped tree  
tried into its common-  
ality, those recursive  
lobes

What is the bushing of a tree? What does its rota, its currents of inter-  
completion, the crowd claims of deletions?

The interweave haunted beyond need not its round-off but a collection  
curve from a midst onto

Settles a course run from outworn bristle into blunt, tentacular nestle  
sessile its billiard sensing

What bushes up from forest trees? No offset diameters but full central  
roll

Stubs like spokes  
broaching the curvi-  
linear, bushlike where  
the speckling is struct-  
ural, outspread not  
straying off the trees'

scope

using the one escape  
of a tree to a form,  
rotund margins

around a shape of  
tree cost but such  
forest generals, greater  
vulnerable tendering

Scoops channelling into eventual circus wood    at tree-bush the entire  
decoy of forest

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## II

A tree bushing up  
confederate turmoil,  
inveterate curtailing  
of curveless exploration,  
this is a bunch-stoop's  
imploration

no blow-ball to  
puff up this roundel  
tensile coil, if  
beech-crowned  
still bush-gowned

a branch groping is  
looping the curve

Searching for an equivalent of tree is already skirmished into bush the  
perching spire its original bulb-head

Is there a poverty of curve towards bulk-up? diagonals on a tight  
interbrace embodying a first-taught of cycling the deflections?

The prayer peninsula off climax stem reballing the spirals in non-  
circuit bundles but still cherishing the root/branch ratio

A mop-head flakes  
its curls against a  
forest demobbing,  
rough woodland tied  
through its globes

bushily at its woodens  
less stump than migrant  
root, tall wood still  
best in bush but

hooping within  
the contrast

bush-ripe trays of  
trees, shelves of  
the incurve

Unportends until tuft pending encounter      the meeting lines of non-  
mergent compaction, forest immunity

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### III

Unspurnables no anti-  
tallness, just branch-  
social singularities

pocket-sprung, single-  
stem on a roll between  
multi-branch

wood-laden however  
pierced at sphere  
where unsought  
trees are over-bush-  
ing ground berries

Is there a path from broken neck to bushhead? is it the surround-  
band? not oblique seal but indirect reel?

From bushes to tree its colonising column of greater the bespoke  
spread, resilient incurve

Bush outseeding trees along their own branch-poke local crests do  
alert cluster

A tree huddling its  
bush before the  
leaf-strippers

tuned up, slightly  
startled but still  
bush-prone sheltering  
its tree-radicals

does cloud round  
with correlative tapers,  
no such rush to

bush once at the top  
of its tree-brow

Like a drone among masts preaching the new green murk    pass a  
prayer along well-tagged mass, snatch no labels

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#### IV

Boast of a bush  
is its tree-shot,  
coasts the brush-away  
from being at bay  
in the woods

bushy proximity  
between hemisphere  
and cylinder, bio-  
mass at its mod-  
ular transfer column

no bushing hairy enough  
to strangle the pole,  
no trunk squat enough  
but entangles branch-roll

Soar and lull of the unhindered call to bush not a frame or neck but  
clasps an alliance of no more monopoly edges at core this must be  
vertical hedge

A basin of foliage caught at the branches' lair put a bushcoat on the  
hulk of it until all levels stratify on the round

Bushing-from not globalisation but a defect the expansion stress re-  
offers as shelter sustainable bulbs sounding out other native all-  
rounders

Keep plumping for  
world, a shine off multiple  
inter-blade, coppiced  
retro-glade

a nested thicket  
with all the abbreviants  
of its converted curves

not really populous  
given its bulbous  
vanishing points

A spell of tree blotch, a swathe of spinning oak however bushlike  
consistent    no notches encase or pin

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