

## Three Poems

Stuart Cooke<sup>1</sup>

### Avalanche<sup>2</sup>

a long,  
low howl

stretching, frosted

text  
ure

crisp alpha  
bet

the ice sheet shivers, slips  
collapses in great,  
sugary clumps

slices through clouds

of explosion: huge clouds  
exploding in a tenebrous void

valley  
tumbling  
breaking  
open sky

snow packs  
a fissure gasps, a word, a fabric

we are reaching out  
with fragmented phrases  
and lenses hauled in from the city

reaching out

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<sup>1</sup> Author's permission to reprint in *Ecozon@Vol 3, No 1*

<sup>2</sup> Published in the Australian journal *Rabbit* (<http://rabbitpoetry.com>).

speech rivering  
dreams scattered  
in tents tides

of icy tessera are rising

it swamps us (its  
rubbery ribs ) (its  
shudders )  
(its twilight vastness  
)

rivers of magma pushed up through fissures,  
their delirious, polished flames,  
their cooling, crystal amplitudes...

the clouds have settled, are still settling  
gaseous creeks of snow are still trickling  
still

the fresh young rocks from the ice fields  
rolling towards the pampas,  
towards the tourists and their flushed cheeks:

hot, bloody bodies of the light,  
searching for the promise of the opening  
as it cries,

cracks

Torres del Paine, Chile



**Ant**

a little rill of water

a trickle

stiff blackjack leaves, fresh

muddy water

I am the storm

the storm made music

ocean still remembers me

slow swimming against the mind

hawking after the huge

globed against limey mud

limestone rain

a continent of caves, a karst-land

sweet water chuckled and trickled

clicker

weedle witter snitcher

clicker and clean – fact

strigil clean to symmetry

purple quartz crystals blossom

snowflake-feathery amethyst

loops twines whickers

slops chackling

the only one to stop – chack!

slick with antenna tip

mouth touch:

still

my limp tongue

my black mist speech

couldn't: throaty mix

phalanxed food gather

bringing back a caterpillar, dead cricket, or bread crust

gorgeous and rhizomic

burrowing into the weight of wood

heet-heet-hoot-of a form dragging  
battles  
wars of women: pincer dismem  
berment legs, heads, leaked acid  
gnawing  
breasts  
fiddling yiddick  
fickle scrillip clus-

towards mound  
hail mound, womb, wing  
towards mound  
the new queens bite off their wings  
the winged males and females emerging from the nest  
they sing, they spread  
small wings to flutter out above  
surf-spray  
twirling and drifts  
stomps / salt-fuck desire driving  
groping for inland womb, lope

xiphillic, xenous  
xanthous gas rooming  
skidding the red-bark pine / sight  
of smell  
lifemind, huckle scrupulour  
I am frozen addled eggs on the tundra  
sprawl the hot guts, my

moon, the  
us is chamber, sheeeee: us-us-muses  
milky and night, hollowed  
freshed / lung  
caste in sense, sleeping in  
earth's chomping mouth