Rachel Blau DuPlessis

Draft 71: Headlines, with Spoils

Night sky, wet roads; headlines thick,
big-font lines, the whole shtick
in I Ching throws.

**Auto and plant emissions linked to fetal harm**
bling bling—“linked to”
but, as stated, “no cause for alarm.”

The great hinge allowed only small openings
along irregular lines of split emanations
whose glut-fonts roiled from dark to dark.

When I threw this as far as I could,
I didn’t understand
that all I’d established was the size of the acreage
and the smash of the throw
that now I see
as ideogram debris.

Hungry? eat sugared salt.
Covenant-less?
It’s you become suspect.

“All of this has been reviewed and is legal.
“However, I am sorry” (as stated)
“that there are perceptions
“and allegations of ethical lapses.”

Of spoils and spoilers,
of the rotted meat governing the ground,
glyph for acer-rage;
of the spoils of war,
of “smash and grab” economies
and the spoils of invisible war—
“Trick in the full
*tricked*
sense of the word.”

“All 12 hours per day for a pittance, living
“12 to a room, working
“in fenced-in factory complexes,”
nailed to the sewing,  
chained to fabrications.  

Who controls these junctures?  
who prices these conjunctions?  
who mines the evisceration?  
Another walks beside me, not an illusion.  
Revenant, tell me if you know  
what land am I? and you?  

Whether this you/me one be plump-full or denied,  
obese or starved, run down or over-passed,  
our acts spin little balls of dust  
from the lint stream of this air.  

There is a garish palette of superabundance at an undisclosed location.  

**Shopping binge compensates for a low industrial sector**  
Buy enlarge.  
Freedom of Choice! (“linked to,” as stated, “no cause for alarm”)  
And then the prototype robot-soldier  
“readied, aimed and fired at a Pepsi can,  
performing the basic tasks of hunting and killing.”  

So That:  
This work will never hit  
the post-production stage,  
because  

**Tanker Sinks Off Spain, Threatening Eco-disaster**  
The ecology of everything holding, breaking, presenting, emerging, swarming forward  
into linked emergencies. What is the damage done? to whom? how long to cover over?  
How will the “R” (find and replace) ever recover? Watch those startling sticks of chance  
get cast, and yo, your name here.  

Begin anywhere,  
throw by throw.  
Out-there  
connected  
to the over-here,  
must talk of that.  

**A Cruel Past Lingers**  
At just this time of year  
the light changes.  
No leaves yet  
so the air shines.
And grit flies everywhere, 
blows into the eye, 
that hurts and tears.

Being choosing articulating refusing detailing 
along the seam. 
To keep track of grievances means living in fury. Forget recollection in tranquility. Try 
collection today. Any day will do.

To search this otherwhere of here, 
do you claim instruction? 
This might be it. 
An eros of production meets the detritus of over-kill.

“ ‘Smart dust’ is now in prototype,” which means 
“communicating sensors, tiny grains of sand, 
“might be strewn by the thousands 
“on fields and forests, all over the land.

“Envision such sensors monitoring 
“forests for fire, warning 
“soldiers of dangerous substances on the battlefield, alerting 
“border guards to activity in remote areas.”

Who strews, who reaps? 
What is it to be tracked? What catch 
to it? what caught? what purpose to deploy? 
What haunt imprinted? Who 
at stake? Why 
tracked? why fought?

Flakes of flinty info. fly 
directly into my third eye; 
I see my second self 
hard pressed, dispersed 
through far-encumbered fields, 
watched by the monitors of dust 
swept in 
swept up 
swept out 
swept over. 
The monitors go down. 
And then the glass goes dark.
Auto and plant emissions linked to fetal harm” The Philadelphia Inquirer, Feb. 16, 2005, A12. “All of this has been reviewed and is legal. However, I am sorry that there are perceptions and allegations of ethical lapses.” Stated by then U.S. Education Secretary Rod Paige. By-line Ben Fuller, The Philadelphia Inquirer Jan 14, 2005, A6. Headline was “Education Dept. to probe payment; senators seek files.” “Trick in the full tricked sense of the word” is a direct citation of Rodrigo Toscano’s differently punctuated lines “<trick> <in the full tricked> <sense of the word>” from his “State and Sensibility,” The Poker #6, p. 20.” 12 hours per day for a pittance, living 12 to a room, working in fenced-in factory complexes.” By-line Erik Eckholm, International Herald Tribune, Aug 23, 2001, p. 4; headline was “China’s Workers Lose Protection.” “Shopping binge compensates for a low industrial sector.” International Herald Tribune, Aug. 24, 2001. [The prototype military robot] “readied, aimed and fired at a Pepsi can, performing the basic tasks of hunting and killing.” By-line Tim Weiner, New York Times, Feb 16, 2005, C1, C4. Headline was “A New Model Army Soldier Rolls Closer to the Battlefield.” Pepsi ®. “Tanker Sinks off Spain, threatening eco-disaster. (Worst spill since Valdez is feared).” By-line Seth Borenstein and Daniel Rubin; The Philadelphia Inquirer, A1. About the tanker Prestige, November 19 or 20, 2002. Headline: “A Cruel Past Lingers (Echoes of the Killing Fields. Cambodians in Philadelphia are still haunted, years later and a world away. First of three parts).” By-line Adam Fifield. The Philadelphia Inquirer, December 12, 2004, A1. “Smart dust” is “a term to describe communicating sensors no bigger than grains of sand that might be strewn by the thousands on fields and forests. Smart-dust proponents envision such sensors being used to monitor forests for fire, warn soldiers of dangerous substances on the battlefield and alert border guards to activity in remote areas.” By-line Barnaby J. Feder. International Herald Tribune, July 26, 2004, p. 9. Headline was “Sensors give a feel to technology.” In the poem, this citation was somewhat modified. Donor Drafts are Conjunctions, Deixis, Midrash (14, 33, 52).