

FIVE: HARD SOFT DIRT ADER WORD

Nathan Walker

The overlap or coincidence made a certain sense to me (1)

Everything is connected, unresolved and one fifth has been removed. Reductionist writing, subtraction (like maths) and taking away (like death).

HARD

To come closer to one's own buried past, one must act like an excavator. Above all, one mustn't be afraid of coming back to the same point time and time again - to spread it like one spreads the earth, to churn it like one churns the soil (2)

Hard happened and was hard. Consider hard tasks, hard objects and hardness. Performing difficult actions with specific hard objects. The objects are dad stuff, the stuff of dad. DIY object and Hardware and tools and tool-like and brick and door and nail. A not unhard like door and its double. Unlike properties they are simultaneously themselves and other. Charged and dead. The objects status is troubled (cared for), hard objects (see **WORD**) shift from their assigned functionality to a new functional or dysfunctional task based logic. The hammer is a hammer and the not hammer. Inanimate objects can also be the body. The object stays after the work. Hard. The actions within Hard are hard. Writing Hard. Solid Fucking Writing. Solid Writing Fucking. Fucking Solid Writing. Into Air. Impossible. Almost Possible. Not tricky no that's not it. Troublefull (careful/careless). Sexuality is hard work. Hard Talk. Fuck my mouth, Sorry (see **SOFT**). Roll up sleeves. Roll up naked sleeves for sex. And then hard. Hard. Lucky. Hard gets crying going. Hard plays into soft (see **SOFT**). Watching Hard work, if it does work, and hard work is hard work. The care with which there is incredible thingness and likeness, all this makes magnificent Hard, and also a fountain of soft (see **SOFT**). Funny when light is hard.

SOFT

*History[...]*is never over* (3)*

Not of care. No easy. The disgrace is not in carelessness or even in flowers (see **ADER**) it comes out out of the work. Feels impotent, feels soft and soft to watch. Soft Focus. Spoken. A safe weight is that which when it pleases is hanging. Easy No. Phantom Please. Dad uses soft as a put-down. Not strong. Crying perhaps. Crying. The audience are soft when they let the work get to them. I'm a soft audience and a sad man viewing the hard news. Soft critters of critical hardness. The soft actions in performance, delicate arrangements of objects, images, actions and gestures. My hand touches the ground and soft happens. Suppose a disappearance, suppose gone

gone. Performance is never over but it doesn't remain hard it remains soft. Like a word ringing in the air and going. Performance ghosts and ghosts is soft. Soft ghost. The tangible soft. The emotional soft. Soft water. Ritual and/or Flow. Hard Ephemera - Soft Ephemeral. Queer in soft thinking and hard (see **HARD**) ground. Soft should not care.

DIRT

Life has grown from the rock and rests upon it; because men have left it far behind, they are able consciously to turn back to it. We do turn back, for it has kept some hold over us (4)

Good morning, darling, what's the dirt today? A Handful of Dust. Dirty writing and writing dirty. Returning. Turning soil. Dirt in nails. Wash before dinner. Dig. Buried, sifting collector coming back. Excavating and Remembering. Makes the shape so heavy and the melody harder (see **HARD**). But like a new watered ground (see **SOFT**) or like the bike and the canal (see **ADER**) that unclean of grounds and their grounds. Sex Pistol Reunion. Shit. Anal Erotic Character Traits. The farm I grew up next to. Viewing the field. And a field and a new watered ground. Expanded fields. Churn and worry and hold close to the earth and that that falls falls (see **ADER**) and returns unover not over over turn underneath and behind over holding (see **WORD**). Offering appearance and smudgy smudgy marks like a plant thrown against a wall. Marks. Marker in the dirt for a grave or the dead.

ADER (BAS JAN)

Flower Arrangement video art and the time it takes to fall. Crawl. Crawl and then how petals do, like petals. Crawl petals do and I. Out of falling comes crawling and out of flower arrangements comes disappearance, out of the thing comes itself and out of itself comes its ghost (see **SOFT**). The Ghost of Ader on a bicycle outside my window at 5am. Like Walt Whitman, I see him always and always see him. Like a word ringing in the air and going. Dying word and word dying (see **WORD**). Points of Departure. No airport. No Casablanca. Flower arrangement as writing. Temporary Life. Collapse into writing. And it's over (see **WORD**). Collapse into writing but never into failure, only hard hard (see **HARD**). Only one thing next to another. Not only nor just and merely. (The buttons are not merely decorative) Only only explaining each other. The ground explains the crawl. The sky begins immediately. Carefully. Care here, care there, care care in the words and the careful soft landing sometimes sometimes (see **SOFT**). Again. Departure of points. Suppose point and the finger points index points near not merely close but nearly.

WORD

Texts are themselves signifieds, not mere signifiers. TEXT: it requires no

hermeneusis for it is itself one – of itself...Excommunication, rather than appropriation. Words are the ghosts of regret (5)

Words are things too. The Zukofsky and The Object Word. Care, Clear. Suppose the word is here, suppose it is in hand, the word in hand, and it is transparent, soft, a ghost (see **SOFT**). Ghost word not writing. Ghost writing word not. Ghost not word writing. Word is like a solid fucking thing too. Word is not over and then Louis Louis it is a thing to remember. Remember word? The clear care here her hair makes better hair of hair and care here. Not transparent. Word is no Ghost (see **SOFT**) word is a thing like as to make a splash when it falls into the canal. (see **ADER**) Be Careful. The word stays after the work (see **DIRT**). Word. The action as writing, the word as action, here are hard (see **HARD**). Writing Hard Word. Solid Fucking Word. Solid Word Fucking. Fucking Solid Word. Into Air. Impossible. Almost Possible. Word turn back. Holding. Safe again.

Notes

- (1) Uta Barth
- (2) Walter Benjamin
- (3) Jaques Le Goff
- (4) Jacquetta Hawkes
- (5) Bruce Andrews

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