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# RUM JUNGLE



Chris Barron

## Colophon

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**It's happening again.** The sun rising further to the North of the telephone pole in my neighbor's yard. The crocuses have been up for weeks. The hyacinth promising flowers. I'm thinking of Williams' *Spring and All* and, though he wouldn't have appreciated the connection, also Eliot's *The Waste Land*: "They called me the hyacinth girl." I've read in Wikipedia that hyacinth bulbs are poisonous but that some that are called hyacinths are edible: "one example is the tassel hyacinth, which forms part of the cuisine of some Mediterranean countries." And so for Spring, recognition (Pound's "Make it new") and recollection (a nod to HD and Tradition), this book, printed in Ashland Kentucky sited along the river oYo that flows in myth and fact from Sassafras Creek in the Australian village of Kallista which by the way of things means in ancient Greek "most beautiful."

**The materials:** cover from a photo of a statue in a park in St. Petersburg Florida, graphic of the Goddess Hebe from J. Moyr Smith's *Ancient Greek Female Costume* (1882). Text type Palatino, quotes Lucinda Handwriting italic. Printed on a Canon Pixma, using archival and acid free paper, composed on an Imac with Swift Publisher software. —JN

*... in the stillness...*

*“in the stillness of outlasting  
all wars”.*

*Ezra Pound*

Canto LXXIV

*... of outlasting all wars ...*

## THE JANGLER

*'There is no there there.'*  
Gertrude Stein

*'The question is not so much whether poetry has any bearing on politics, but whether politics remains equal to its original cohesion with poetry.'*  
Giorgio Agamben

*'Only life in the word is undefinable & unforgettable.'*  
Giorgio Agamben

life is a green  
palinode  
in revertio  
of your charms  
where hindis  
jungal words  
into deserts  
of forest as  
a muezzin  
sips hibiscus  
or julep in  
the puramis  
of stars  
fallen deeply  
pyrophoric  
for the scry of  
rum jungle

## ERIKRIPTOS

*More you also desired, but every one of us  
Love draws earthward, and grief bends with still  
greater power;  
Yet our arc not for nothing  
Brings us back to our starting place.  
Holderlin*

all night he lay  
with her in the  
dark & put his  
hands on her  
in his knowing  
way so her eyes  
filled with him  
& nothing but  
him - but in the  
morning he was  
always gone -  
she never saw  
him once though  
it was he she  
thought sitting in  
the cypress tree  
watching over

*... in the stillness...*

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## LIKUNITES

*'I beseech you enter your life.  
I beseech you learn to say 'I'  
When I question you :  
For you are no part, but a whole ;  
No portion, but a being.'  
Ezra Pound*

in kiste or liknon  
he wakes up  
like a child nestled  
into bleary recognition  
of itself in the darkness  
of his mother - spring  
current brings  
lymph to the trunks  
& they light up  
first hidden  
with modesty  
then more obvious  
with the appearance  
of whiplash  
in every atom  
as it mingles with  
infinite zoi

*... in the stillness...*

## ENTASIS

*'that my conscious-wheel is nothing  
more than a circle of fog whistling  
in the air'*

*Pessoa*

a slight  
convexity  
a cummer  
on a column  
swelling to  
substantiate  
what the eye  
missed -  
a stretch so  
i run my finger  
over its tacit  
amplitude till  
the entelechy  
of its bump  
is moment -  
a grace note -  
appoggiatura

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## WIDERSCHEIN

*'the reflection of eternal  
contradiction, the father  
of things.'*

*Nietzsche*

your hand  
vacant  
free-splayed  
on a cave wall  
with your breath  
spumed around --  
the ironising of  
your concrete loss --  
being as if  
motile to become  
something  
to remember --  
your hand  
open to kiasmos  
sovereign  
without stigma  
or pomp

*... in the stillness...*

## AGENCY

*'The continuity of the ego is a myth. Man is an atom that perpetually breaks up & forms anew.'*  
Brecht

*'an agency without a telos'*  
Alan Singer

*'For what you take to be a shattering of language is really a shattering of the body.'*  
Kristeva

a central shift  
subject to motion -  
soma & psyche  
repairing between  
instalments of  
eros & loss - the  
semiotic throb -  
enclitic near  
disaster of each  
symbolic  
encapsulation -  
choric heart-beat  
murmuration  
speculation as  
you feel to take wing  
& pull back to mace  
in its musky casing

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## ELEUTHEROS

*'The place of the intelligible world is the place of life & the very principle & source of the soul & the intellect.'*  
Plotinus

*'One has to conceive place not only as encompassing & establishing in itself the things existing in place, but as sustaining them by one single power. Regarded thus, place will not only encompass bodies from outside, but will fill them totally with a power which raises them up. And the bodies sustained by this power, falling down by their proper nature, but being raised up by the superiority of place, will thus exist in it.'*  
Aristotle

before the deep -  
before the bitter  
waters of division -  
before the carving up  
into magnitudes  
of unsayable  
reaches - before  
the ordering was  
given & the skies  
crossed & the  
mother's legs  
parted - i thought  
you knew me like  
some mingling  
darkness in the  
corner of a room  
not yet known

*... in the stillness...*

## POTENTIA

*'... even God probably preferred to speak of His world in the subjunctive of potentiality ... for God makes the world & while doing so thinks that it could just as easily be some other way.'*

*Robert Musil*

*'the 'field' eventually eclipsed the substance'*

*Einstein*

*'The individual man, since his separate existence is manifested only by ignorance & error, so far as he is anything apart from his fellows, & from what he & they are able to be, is only a negation.'*

*'matter is mind hide-bound with habit'*

*CS Peirce*

*'Discontinuity is an open gap in determinism through which the contingency of chance & freedom can penetrate the unforeseeable.'*

*Gisele Brelet*

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## HEN DIA DUOIN

the one beyond  
being that  
we strive for -  
that is seen  
by chance in  
the glance of  
the processual -  
or perhaps only  
as a far too distant  
reverie in  
the eye of  
the other - a  
number prior  
to being  
that makes us  
know one by  
indefinite dyads



*... in the stillness...*

## HEN DIA DUOIN

*'geometry is concerned with intelligibles & it must be placed there [in the intelligible]'*

*Plotinus*

*'number is composed of many units whereas multiplicity is composed of henads'*

*Damascius*

*'the logoi do not have to be governed by the onta'*

*Julien Servois*

*'a realm that oscillates between the eidal, the quiddital & the archeal - can thus assume at the outset, as its mobile base, this Platonic thought that is so alert to the transformability of concepts / proofs / examples. The mobility of the base, indispensable for understanding Grothedieck's work, underlies Platonic philosophy from the beginning.'*

*Fernando Zalamea*

*... of outlasting all wars ...*

## POTENTIA

so we will type  
genera & see what  
becomes of it . . .  
the pow-wow of  
our might be's -  
the hardness of  
some half-blown  
matter that belies  
tenderness  
within so your  
indeterminacy  
falls away  
& you become  
the very irony  
of some other's  
piacular  
horizon

*... in the stillness...*

## DIANOETIC

*'Soul goes past the One & falls into number & multiplicity.'*

*'Soul itself exists forever not departing from itself.'*

*'Soul experiences its falling away from being one & is not altogether one.'*

*Plotinus*

soul when it takes  
on intellect  
begins to  
move in  
circles -  
this the  
mimesis  
of the stars  
& where smoke  
rings part  
your lips -  
is it a mis-  
apprehension  
then when one  
assumes another -  
the inner turnings  
of the heart . . .

*... of outlasting all wars ...*

## HYPOKEIMENON

*'they begin with the horizons where the other collapsed'*

*Rimbaud*

*'Since all kivas or embodied beings emanate from prakrti or the material substratum pervading physical existence there is no difference between them in substance at the root level.'*

*Bhagavad-Gita 13:31*

beneath skin  
nothing more  
than what's  
already  
adduced by  
another -  
there's no  
such thing  
as alone  
let alone  
becoming  
what that  
may imply -  
a sheave  
is a pulley  
& a sheaf the  
ring on a map

*... in the stillness...*

## SYMBALLEIN

*'Every Jack-slave hath his bellyful of / fighting,  
& I must go up & down like a cock that  
nobody can match,'  
Shakespeare's Cymbeline (2.1.19)*

*'A symbol is characterised by a translucence of  
the special (species) in the individual.'  
Coleridge*

*'How hard it is to hide the sparks of nature!'  
Cymbeline (3.3.80)*

*'Who are you? Who throws you / across these pages  
in my virgin land?'  
Adonis*

*'Hang there like fruit, my soul, / Till the tree die.'  
Cymbeline (5.5.310)*

to be free  
enough  
to say love  
whatever the  
wants of it  
before its  
audacious  
lie sets in -  
we thrown  
by mere  
breath do  
not relinquish  
complexity  
but like music  
float in  
green daze  
of its recall

*... of outlasting all wars ...*

## CITHARA

*'Death turns us into words, words turn us into  
dead people.'*

*'Our senses are bathed in muteness.'  
'Silence builds a nest, sensation's habitat.'  
Michel Serres*

when they took  
him apart  
there was nothing  
left but a memory  
of song & the frenzy  
of his analysands -  
how they loosened  
the silex into a  
river drift with his  
head in it -  
monadic - love's  
tongue heart strung  
into stumps of  
dismemberment -  
excesses of kenotic  
outrage where  
the stone moves

*... in the stillness...*

## ABULIA

*'the ashes of winter  
are in the fire that  
sings of refusal'  
Rene Char*

the symmetry  
of involution -  
my integrity  
(abstruse)  
against yours  
not yours -  
aristides  
unbriable  
who let  
himself  
be bribed  
a fortiori  
all men  
are bribable -  
as we all  
prove free  
of will

*... of outlasting all wars ...*

## EMANATIONS

*'Aristotle & Augustine / clearly misunderstood  
Anaximander / And in doing so beta'd themselves'  
'The earth with a city in her hair / entangled of  
trees.'  
Charles Olson*

*'Amaximander holds that there is a circle 28 times  
as great as the earth. It is like the wheel of a cart,  
with a hollow rim full of fire, which at a certain  
point reveals the fire through a mouthpiece, as  
through the tube of a bellows. This is the sun.'  
Plutarch*

they say it is  
better to be  
without cause -  
that it stifles  
the flow & that  
man himself  
is impediment -  
my hand on yours  
yours on mine  
what can it  
be but what  
it is - where is  
the invented  
princeps that says  
it cannot be &  
where the element  
to limit its being

*... in the stillness...*

## LULLABY

*'Thus the word "spirit" comes from air, which is the most subtle nature in the visible world. Spirit is better defined in the Kabbala Denudata as the central nature, which has the ability to emit a luminous sphere & to enlarge & to shrink to it, ...'*

*Anne Conway*

shall i move over  
thee in the night  
& settle your  
folds with my  
breath so you stir  
a little from one  
soma to another  
so you breathe  
& sigh with me with  
content for all the  
furrows & burrows  
in your lalala &  
your beautiful  
eye that sees  
like the rind that  
hears what  
you already know

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## ALREADY

*'The drama of Bread can never be a substitute for the Wine & the Wafer, because man must not only have his loaf of bread, but he must also have an image to eat.'*

*Edward Dahlberg*

there's dozens  
of didos in  
carthage  
waiting to be  
remembered -  
i can be your  
memory some-  
time when  
you're not too  
busy out  
liquidating  
sea - worse  
than canute  
on the turn -  
moonstruck  
by your own  
superfluity

*... in the stillness...*

## ENGENDER

*'Now is the time of the Assassins.'*

*Rimbaud*

*'what is wanted is to have words say the preeminence of the figure, to signify the other of signification.'*

*'[women] should not attack [masculine imperialism] head-on but wage a guerrilla war of skirmishes & raids in a space & time other than those imposed for millennia by the masculine logos.'*

*Liotard*

*'You . . . have no confidence in your use of language; but you don't leave it there. You take men's use of language.'*

*Charles Olson to Frances Bolderoff*

to speak outside  
containment  
is the guilty  
pleasure or  
cloud guilt  
edge that one  
hopes by -  
shall we  
remember our  
differences  
with some  
jibe or  
shrinkage  
to the point  
that follows  
direction from the  
minotaur's eye

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## MOURNING SONG

no end to  
mourning -  
ashes that  
fly in the face -  
nothing more  
natural than  
this fall of  
sack-cloth -  
it's stiffness -  
this isn't  
even greek  
& what's greek  
isn't greek -  
when you point  
to the flow  
it's only  
caesura

*... in the stillness...*

## MOURNING SONG

*'That there might be a mode of thinking that would not have to sign such contracts with 'the' Greco-Nietzschean metaphysics is clearly an intolerable claim which has already compounded itself with the adversary.'*

*Laruelle*

*'How to give affirmation to an other end.'*

*Derrida*

*'Derrida refuses the reduction of the deconstructive double band to a 'Moebius strip' which would hold as a model only for the successful work of mourning, but not for the other end of deconstruction.'*

*Laruelle*

*'Not an (other) end, but the other (as end), perhaps, but this is not exactly certain, the other otherwise than as end.'*

*Laruelle*

*'To speculate then on an 'end' of mourning - work which would not be the 'normal' completion of mourning, but something like a beyond the mourning principle.'*

*Derrida*

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## ACCIDENTAL DAEMON

*'— but what order informs this life? What Nomos (law) does it manifest? How is its mediating function, its metaxy, internally articulated?'*  
*Massimo Cacciari*

& hold onto that  
bright thing as  
if image would  
spare you  
more dread -  
forget the angel  
fallen into  
god's yawn  
& muster  
your pity for  
pisiform sake -  
the infanta  
breathes in  
funnels & digs  
a way back  
like some chink  
into china

*... in the stillness...*

## STROMGEIST : ANSTOSS

*'It is in centres where there is no differentiation that we achieve the greatest certainty, which therefore demands the most irreversible decisiveness.'*

*Badiou*

*'the wandering of the becoming-at-home of historical man upon this earth.' 'the self-installation of the forgetting of the ultimate truth that even nothingness does not essentially obtain without Being.'*

*Heidegger*

*'The irony of destiny & the supreme paradox is that the sophist, whether he takes the form of a satyr or a centaur, attacking Plato for embodying the untrue & the simulacrum, may have ultimately been the true philosopher.'*

*Dosse*

*'fix those vertigos'*

*Rimbaud*

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## THESMOS

*"it did not remain the same"*

*Theseus' paradox*

knowing the  
rustications  
knowing the  
pedagoguery  
of what must be -  
the must not be of  
bull & cephalus  
the irish open  
prismatic iris  
closure of each  
chronic bum  
on the elm chair  
of oblivion . . .  
so he slips & falls  
from the seemly  
high juncture of  
peripatetics



*... in the stillness...*

## PHALANSTERY

*'the lion never sleeps'*  
*Manetho*

the "i" of the eye  
where you see me  
atomised  
as a lava piece  
on the moon  
& i see you  
as a firefly that  
once  
extinguished  
will allow me  
to drowse  
in this full moon  
sheaf of chronic  
penetration -  
as if history  
owned us

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## STROMGEIST : ANSTOSS

configuring  
the pond  
as a pale  
crown  
of chosen  
source its  
constant  
polarity  
caesura  
that turns  
the rhyme  
upon itself -  
where is  
the break  
pindar?  
there is  
no break

*... in the stillness...*

## DELIRIUM

*'In vain does one knock  
at the gates of poetry with  
a sane mind'  
Plato 'Phaedrus'*

visions of  
wind milled  
in the steeples  
of al-cala de  
henares  
rust ergot  
of flying  
storks like  
swastikas in  
sympathetic  
ink of  
clairvaux's  
angels  
guarding steps  
rekindling  
fires in every  
furrow

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## CATHEXIS

*Patience is not sitting & waiting, it is foreseeing.  
It is looking at the night & seeing the day.  
Rumi*

*'I will sing to those who understand, close the  
doors ye profane.'  
Orphic Theogony*

*'Light be the earth upon you, lightly rest.'  
Euripides. 'Alcestis'*

fine & dandy -  
autopsy is an  
anatropic  
love dancing  
on its head -  
you see hippias  
major minor  
& what re-  
solves an-  
other's vanity  
is so hip it will  
masquerade  
as its own hole -  
black ivory  
slaked in  
gold - jason  
on the planao

*... in the stillness...*

## DISTICH

*'Then I thought, 'I shall die in my nest,  
and I shall multiply my days like the phoenix;  
my roots spread out to the waters,  
with the dew all night on my branches;  
my glory was fresh with me,  
and my bow ever new in my hand.'  
Book of Job*

all the lemmas  
in the world  
imposed as  
pharmacos on  
flight's fancy  
attendancy  
substituted  
this day  
with night's  
armorial  
splendour  
& to remember  
us by the  
heart murmurs  
in beats of  
atropine  
& the alembic

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## INTERDICTION

*'We have in [the action principle] a thing that  
describes the character of the path throughout all  
of space & time.  
The behaviour of nature is determined by saying  
her whole space-time path, has a certain  
character.'  
'sum over paths'  
'I could see the path.... each path got an  
amplitude.'  
Richard Feynman*

an exercise of  
integrating out  
parts of a system  
to expose the  
integer as  
kinetic form of  
potential -  
how their sum  
proves most  
summary under  
the dire sisters  
who remain  
unambiguous -  
light may not know  
its way you say  
but it sure  
acts like it does

*... in the stillness...*

## HELIX

*'A single reed alone,  
shaking its head,  
shaking for you.  
Your mother is rocking her head,  
rocking for you.'  
'From your mother's lap  
you have fallen down.  
Your crook gone.  
[You must go too.]'  
'My crook was lost,  
the owl's claw & the falcon.'  
Dumuzi's Bad Dream*

heat calls us into  
the shade -  
a trunk bends to its  
weight of ivy -  
there's too much fig  
to panic with lost  
faith or fear - all your  
come here is the  
hydra bent to  
its own inclination  
unaffected by  
daily event hidden  
in your mother's  
skirts like a hoverfly  
to her ney - what's  
lost is not the cling  
but what you say  
should go both ways

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## TO FLAG - the scourge

this flow from  
one to another -  
a flow between  
the ins & outs  
as our register of  
time's interruption  
where conduction  
hardens & softens  
in entanglement -  
your stillness you  
say is your future  
reconnection  
with the past -  
an aberration  
as fulfilment  
of duty paid  
to diffusion

*... in the stillness...*

## TO FLAG - the scourge

*'Furthermore, when a spirit or soul has been separated from a body, so that the body no longer rules over it or has power to move it as before, what is the cause of this separation, if one says that vital affinity of the soul for the body is the cause of this unison & that this vital affinity ceases with the corruption of the body, I answer that one must first ask in what this vital affinity consists?'*

*Anne Conway*

*'Nature is not simply an organic body like a clock, which has no vital principle of motion in it, but it is a living body which has life & perception which are much more exalted than a mere mechanism or a mechanical motion.'*

*Anne Conway*

*"occult attempts to seduce us into thinking un-Heraclitean thoughts about time & structure of the Aeon, so as not to notice the overshadowing of our world by those who heard the message of repudiation as a way to clone their own refusal of transformation to the fourth.'*

*John Clarke*

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## CAPRIFICATION

*'You couldn't experience a margarita in d'Annunzio because he denies you the pebbles & flints that reveal it.'*

*'He detailed the powerful effect, he set forth the lift, with piscatorial pantomime. A truly miserable man.'*

*Samuel Beckett*

o musa! how  
you roll the oats  
in the soma  
of necrophile -  
vielliebchen -  
before the next  
wave hits us  
in the chopper  
we go widdershin -  
you with your locks  
all horn & full of  
that brahma shit  
that turns you  
carcajou [good as  
nuer] in the fizzy fig  
of supine gaul &  
over-dew

*... in the stillness...*

## CLEAR AS MA'AT

*'I do not need to bother about what I will do later. What I am doing now I had to do. I do not need to discover the things I will discover later. In the new science, everything comes in its place -- That is its excellence.'*

*Lautreamont*

i opened the  
book - i'd  
been thinking  
of feathers as  
hope i could  
make no claim  
to - iron  
in a soul of  
southern irony  
that turns you  
upside down  
& spits you out -  
'to ornette' it  
reads 'from  
john clarke' --  
a hand on  
my shoulder

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## HOLINESS

*'But this collective humanity has itself taken on with respect to the individual the oppressive function formerly exercised by Nature.' 'Nearly everywhere - often even when dealing with purely technical problems - instead of thinking, one merely takes sides for or against. Such a choice replaces the activity of the mind. This is an intellectual leprosy; it originated in the political world & then spread through the land, contaminating all forms of thinking. This leprosy is killing us; it is doubtful whether it can be cured without first starting with the abolition of all political parties.' 'Love is not consolation, it is light.'*

*Simone Weil*

when they cut  
down the grove  
of trees - olives  
& lemons first  
representing  
good health &  
livelihood - they  
burned leaves  
& the trunks  
on stone altars  
with the bones  
of asherah's priests  
& everything of  
that lady was hidden  
then from their eyes  
so the elohim were  
struck dumb

*... in the stillness...*

## SOLENOID

*'But the indifference centre is no longer a point, it has turned itself into a loop & provokes a revolution in the spatial intuition.'*  
Gilles Chatelet

all summer  
the gun goes off  
in the apple  
orchard  
extinguishing  
flight -- you say this  
infinitely subtle  
fluid is visible  
as lighting caught  
in a bottle  
& a bivalve razor  
shell acts as  
magnet where  
zero explodes &  
the charge is nil  
though the current  
goes back to the ghat

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## PI-BY BLUE ANGEL

*'... the feverish slumbers of the mind:  
The bubble floats before, the spectre stalks behind.'*  
de Quincey's 'Ode to Tranquility'

we'll build a  
sky-cabin  
with no beds  
cause you'll be  
walking on it -  
you'll wear the  
poppy on your  
head the way  
you used to  
with piped  
muse of any  
thing you like  
& that big  
electric  
boredom  
monitor that  
knows when

*... in the stillness...*

## GLISSANDI

*'we sing amid our uncertainty; and, smitten even  
in the presence of the most high beauty by the  
knowledge of our solitude, our rhythm  
shudders . . . '*

*Yeats*

no not so easy  
ennui or  
winter's vain  
torpor - nor  
this largo  
of your  
hearth as  
brandishment  
of small notes  
made real  
by kora -  
the stutter of  
fallen stars  
out of night  
into a pool  
of kalos as  
amity's blight

*... of outlasting all wars...*

## GLISSANDO

*'What we observe is not nature itself, but  
nature exposed to our method of questioning.'*

*Werner Heisenberg*

*'We cannot command nature except by obeying her.'*

*Francis Bacon*

tell me about  
deep inelastic  
scattering &  
the *lusus naturae*  
i find myself  
faced with  
in complexity -  
fractional  
exponents he  
calls them - not  
with identity yet  
sufficient  
to set down in  
differentials  
here for your  
simile diffuse  
in exigency