

The Fool
and Other Poems

Jeremy James

Granny

Her eyes were like
sunshine in a coalmine
and though they weren't mine
I hoped one day to see
the same things
as she.

Puppy

Labradorable
and more.
Imploring mankind.
Unfreezing
frozen hearts.
And eyes to the blind.

Carp Catnip

To watch these koi enjoy
their watermelon
and feed breezily
in darting flashes
of yellow and cream
and tangerine
is unreal.

Jesus of Nazareth

He spoke in parables,
knowing that those who heard
would hear
and those who didn't care
would slowly disappear.

Sea of Galilee

Some seven miles
from side to side.
Not too wide.
A short walk, really,
on a fine day,
if you know the way.

Blind Bartimaeus

The shout he let out
– and kept repeating –
would peal
beneath the skies
till Judgment Day.

Bethlehem

That gentle bend
in the road
would have slipped
into the abyss
had he not stopped and wept
in our midst.

Sceva

What a thrashing
they got.
They never had
a scrap like that.
Your lads should be glad
they had a chance
to look back.

Holy Name

Demons have a seizure,
wizards disappear,
and witches
hiss with fear
when they hear
the holy name
of Jesus.

The Fool

Get real, he said,
and spoke very slowly
through a hole in his head.

God is dead.

And when I laughed
he nearly choked
and turned red.

Repent

They have a crippling inability
to submit,
to admit they exist
in the midst of a lie,
that their sin
is inextinguishable
without Him,
and that they will die.

Clown

It's the shoes, you know.
The nose I can take
and the fake smile
but when he snaps his braces,
and puts those
huge shoes
through their paces,
my head aches.

Sinner

From the lowest part
of the earth
he arrived,
a child,
unlike any ever made,
now full of pride
and on parade.

Saboteurs

The super rich
scheme without ceasing,
moving pieces
we can't see
– with increasing speed –
and depleting the sweetness
we need.

Vatican

The See that sees
nothing
except its own
exceptional position
in the Adversary's plan
to conquer man.

Vaccines

A truckload of toadies
arrived today,
their needles primly primed.
They need to appease
a new disease
with a serum for mankind.
Seemingly more
are on the way.
I hope I'm hard to find.

War Decoration

Pretty metal
on a string.
Oh, what joy it must bring
to Mrs Brown,
who is now
a son down.

Philosophers

These verbal acrobats
stopped by
for a chat
and left with everything
we believed
was a matter of fact.

Elephant

Marooned in the room
he stood unseen
as millions passed through.
Why no-one asked
about the poo
is most peculiar.
If only we knew.

Censorship

Indelicate enquiries
are revised
to satisfy the big guys.
An inquisitive existence
is ill-advised.
Even babies at the breast
must digress
lest they appear
to criticize.

The Wicked

They call it
divide and conquer,
where cunning lies
are told to different guys,
and then a means
of mutual mutilation
is supplied.

Brainwashed

They are ashamed to use
the wonderful mind
You gave us,
filled as it is
with common sense
from the day You made us.

Olympic 'Females'

As they cross the line,
they shout!
Billions admire these 'gals',
racing outrageously
without breasts,
their muscles
bulging obsessively
as though the guy inside
was trying to get out.

Myopia

The Fall caused
normalcy bias,
where everything
stays the same
– apparently –
and change
by any name
is merchandise.

The Serpent

An anaconda
wound around
a jacaranda
and crushed himself
to death.

Turmoil

Their names change
across generations,
concealing their seed.

Yet such epithets
are not what we need.

Just gaze instead
at the fruit they yield.

Spider

Unseen on the ceiling,
weaving, not waving,
waiting
for a guest
to digest.

Demon

With one eye
he glowered
and with one eye
he glared
but nothing prepared me
for the eye that
simply stared.

Snare

Bait
of this quality
I hate.
By the time you realize...
– surprise! –
it's too late.

Antichrist

For a moment
he seemed supreme,
a god of sorts,
until the crazy sadist
inside him
went wild
and spoiled
his disguise.

Son of God

As His armies arrive,
igniting the sky,
the heathen hide,
petrified,
for they know
He'll pass by,
with His sword at His side.

The Shepherd

Oh He hears, He hears,
and our cries disappear!
His zeal is cracking skulls
with spectacular accuracy!
His aim never dulls
as they fall asunder!
We gaze in wonder
as the prisoners cheer!

Aftermath

We sleep in the woods
and talk among ourselves,
almost disbelieving
the things we have seen,
our joyful voices
rippling through the hills.

The Rock

Perfect peace,
unspeakably sweet,
a healing so complete
that we weep
at His feet.

Jerusalem

The King has come
and the world
is at rest –

We are so blessed!

The bells, the bells,
how loudly they ring!
The saints in the city
continually sing!

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For further information visit www.zephaniah.eu

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