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Diplomacy

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Diplomacy

Abstract

Jakarta calls you. An ache like a hot tap grizzling in your head reminds you that it's there,

Mark Macleod

DIPLOMACY

Jakarta calls you. An ache like a hot tap
grizzling in your head reminds you that it's there,
but you bend for the paper anyway and draw
a hand across the gap in your pyjamas.
There were thumps like a blocked drain next door
in the night: someone is alive.
The soles of your feet are numb and wet,
there are tracks behind you on the lawn.
Your voice is sharp and quick
and you withdraw into certainty.
Canberra is a beautiful city.
In the winter it is surrounded
by mountains. You should see it.
The parrots are stunning against the snow.