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DESERT ISLAND FANTASIA

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DESERT ISLAND FANTASIA

Abstract

In another life I would have fallen in love with you We would have been ship-wrecked. that's true, washed ashore changing to each other inside a cradle of kelp.

Syd Harrex

DESERT ISLAND FANTASIA

In another life
I would have fallen in love with you

We would have been ship-wrecked,
that's true, washed ashore
clinging to each other
inside a cradle of kelp.

In another life
I would have staggered from the surf
your sodden hair
transfiguring my face.
that's true.

But the desert bit of the island
is not. Yet there we are,
lying on our backs
(the sand is hot)
breathing out the sea,
breathing in the mango air

until at last we arose
and gave our shadows back
their former lives

and stepped into the fringes
of the jungle to reinvent
the future

to map and name our island
tongue to tongue,
a first birth place.

"What is that scarlet bird?"
you asked.

In another life
I would have answered your question,
and fallen
in island love
with you.