



Simon Chard A Fence Without Wire



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A Fence Without Wire

spring sunlight
a year's dust
goes skyward

freshening wind
the stormcock's
first wild notes

bright in the sun
the belts of the belties
grubby from winter

calf and cow huddle a morning without hills

elder in leaf
her ungloved hand
slips into mine

in love
with the lilt in her voice
distillery tour

sand martins
making it their own—
nimbostratus

evening smirr—
wayside blackthorn
lights the road home

in and out
of conversation—
wagtails over shingle

hawkbits
the bits of ballast
they left behind

purple bog a fence without wire

darkness settles
a milk tanker's
cloud of dust

daddy longlegs
evening's return
to lamplight

summer graffiti
three little words
beginning to fade

the leaf blower
busy blowing away
sunday morning

white van man
finally off my tail . . .
winding valley colours

day moon
the town below
sunk in mist

whoopers—
calling the length
of the merse fields

the icy shortcut
going on forever
dark sky stars

setting sun
curlers sweep home
the final stones

Award Credits

“bright in the sun”

Runner-up, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2014

“daddy longlegs”

First Prize, Haiku Presence Award 2014

“darkness settles”

Winner, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2015

“evening smirr”

Runner-up, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2009

“freshening wind”

Runner-up, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2008

“setting sun”

Runner-up, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2010

“summer graffiti”

Runner-up, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2008

“the icy shortcut”

Runner-up, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2015

“the leaf blower”

Runner-up, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2011

“white van man”

Runner-up, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2013

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