



**So**

**Geoffrey Squires**

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Text set in Kepler 11 point.

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### *Note on Reading*

*When viewing this in Adobe Reader, we suggest that you adjust the size to 'Fit Page', and then click on 'Next Page' thereafter, rather than scrolling down.*



If we only if only

if only we

if ever    if it ever

what we    what    what we    what we

after after we

if it meant    if it meant that

how in others as well as ourselves

what we every    what every

why we always    why we never    why we    why

about    about what we

and what would make it or allow it to be

any of what we

what turns into or becomes

however much we might try

and how easy    how easily

when one thinks    when one thinks that

how without    without any

what is ours    ours to

any    any of    any    any

in the light of which    in the absence of which

where one might expect    where one might expect that

in the time that it takes    in the time    in the time that it takes

why when we    why    why when    when we

so that by now    by now

in the fullness of memory



impossibly



so

when    when for some reason

in some way that we cannot imagine

and with such strange contentment

such being-at-peace-with-the-world

what was before and might be so again

and for the rest

which in all likelihood

more than ever before

full or filled with

but never as you imagine it never quite as you imagine it

and not so as one could see

meaning meaning that

where before

so what    what is it

when we ourselves ourselves

in what could be mistaken for

into the ever more    ever more    into    into the ever more

to which there is no answer

and compared to which it seems

in what is or is likely to be

despite everything

and the temptation must be    must be

given how we usually    given how we always

when in some way that one does not understand

what could only be

to the point where

each breaking off    each half

summoning or calling upon

as much now or more than

what would otherwise be

or emptied of all substance

if it were not    if it were not for

and the complete    the complete absence or exclusion    the  
complete    the complete

all of which    all of    all of    all of which

without in any way

SO

SO

SO

SO

so

SO

so



*Geoffrey Squires (b. 1942) grew up in Co. Donegal in Ireland. After reading English at Cambridge he lived and worked in a number of countries and is now retired and living in the north of England. His main publications are Drowned Stones (New Writers Press, Dublin, 1975), XXI Poems (Menard Press, London, 1980), Landscapes and Silences (New Writers Press, 1996) and the selected Untitled and other Poems 1975-2002 (Wild Honey Press, Bray, Ireland, 2004). He is also a translator of French and Persian poetry and some of the latter can be found in K. Washburn and J. Major (eds) World Poetry (Norton, New York, 1998). Another e-book, featuring his poem Lines is available from the Shearsman website.*