

The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a book cover or a piece of paper, with a prominent red border. The central area is dark, almost black, with some lighter, fibrous or grainy textures visible. The red border is a vibrant, slightly mottled red, suggesting a leather or a specific type of paper binding. The overall appearance is aged and somewhat rustic.

**Lines**

**Geoffrey Squires**

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Text set in Kepler 11 point.

## ***Note on Reading***

*Please click on Next Page each time  
rather than scrolling down.*

*If you are using Adobe Reader version 7.0 or later,  
click on the 'single page' icon, the second (from the left)  
of the four layout icons at the bottom right of your screen.  
Also, please ensure that you are using the 'Fit Page'  
instruction, in order that the page will sit correctly  
on your screen.*



And as to as as to as to

why we sometimes    why sometimes we

whether it is or not    whether it is    whether

which to us is to us which is

in this place    in this    this place

where everything



Because to    because    because    because to

when there is no reason why it should not

and all we can imagine    all that we can imagine

what it does    what it does    what it is in its nature to do

or or

to see where    to see if

in this place    in this    this place

knowing    knowing of course    knowing

as if we were not surrounded



Of    of the    of

the hold it has

and the difference    the difference in    the difference between

however    however it happened    in what way

what coming or coming together what coming

in which the question    the questions    in which the question    of  
or about

why when we    why    why when    when we

of the many that    of the many who

any of which    any one of which

and reaching the point that

what we need to remember    what it is important to    what we have  
to remember

every every moment every every



What we do without thinking    what we do as a matter of course  
without thinking

in the way    in the way that

this constant

and where    where it belongs    what is natural to it    comes easily

is content    at peace with itself    with itself    with    with

which is why

it is    it is in the nature of it    the nature of it    it is    it is  
of the many possible    of the many    the many possible  
as if from    from    or out of  
for there to be    to be    for there to be

which would by now    by now would

however    however it happened    in what way

while we



And of the fact that

some    not all    some not others    not all

at the time    at the time when    at the time that

without which    without    without which

when there is no need

and what we know from it    what we learn    from it    what we know

always allowing for

in the way    in the way that

for there to be to be

and we cannot dismiss the idea    the idea    we cannot dismiss the idea

that what we did would    would have    that what we did would have  
would

which it is impossible    which is impossible    which cannot

all of which is

of what was at the time

like nothing else    like nothing    like    like



Of such    of such

to where before    before    to where before

and which exactly almost exactly

for as long as for as long as long as

until such time

and when we go in it is to nowhere nothing when we go in it is to find  
when we enter when we go in  
to the place that the place where

without really   really   without   without really

while all along

believing   believing that   believing in   believing that in  
in the way   in the way that  
and it only needs   it needs only

this world no other    other than    than

what we make of it    what we make    what we    what

or how when after

when we see it for the first time    when we come to it for the first time

and all we can imagine    all that we can imagine

each little    each    each little

hoping    hoping that    hoping that in or because    hoping that because



Of the movement    the movement of



Some

what is already    what already is    already

in the repeated in in the repeated

some some

which is out of all proportion

lies gently on    upon

and after what seems like a long time

to the exclusion of everything else

why we always    why we never    why we    why

like a world    it is like a world    a world    like a world

and knowing that later we would      that we would later

to the point that    to the point where

more as if more    as if the idea of

would in the end    in the end would



So this must be    this must    so this    this

which it is impossible    which is impossible    which cannot  
unless it is because

in all its    in all    all of its    all its    its

which otherwise    which would otherwise    which otherwise would

except    except that

what we thought might

always allowing for

what no longer    what is no longer    no longer is

and which cannot be altered    changed    altered

now    now that

each little each each little

in the evening in the evening of

what we make of it    what we make    what we    what

of the end    the end of    of



*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).*