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# Neolithic Orkney in its European context

Edited by Anna Ritchie

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## Orcadian Moment

We crawl on elbows and toes  
Into the ground.  
It closes round us.  
Earth's aroma.  
White sky and wind are shut  
Out of the mound.

Some found bones on this pressing  
Crawl to the dead.  
Some took treasure.  
Just a flash as  
We point the instamatic.  
Mind your head.

Everything is still here —  
Still — plus,  
Mysterious too,  
Questioning thickly  
The dark endless burial,  
The stones — us.

*Jan Farquharson 1999*



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