

from USUFRUCT

Rob Halpern

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No poems accumulate

What use fusts in us un

- used wealth a hole a

Field the so-called free

- farmer's plasm buys the

Body back or sells the ba

- by for a share what large

Seigniorial domains and

All you want is waste

- ed arable earth my fat

Makes up the difference

In cash so ashamed i have

— *used the usufruct for shitting.*

•

Hurled on the market

A fosse commune what

Movements hulk away

My bowels' landed weal

- th a whole decay of

People upon whom

Care encroaches ten

- ants singing shit & all

That grows ploughs

Depopulates erects

These beautiful lines

Enclosures to enjoy

— *a thing is to use it illicitly.*

•

What a common grave or

Blank for this i have so

Been fucked into pasture

Pleasures the sovereign

- 's length a rent-roll my

Lordship my bondsman

For whom i'd give it all

— *his hole can't justify my longing.*

•

Pauper ubique jacet ex

- clama la reina Isabel

Después de recorrer

Inglaterra upon seeing

Things limping *en masse*

To the capital cast off mist

- resses of my surplus

Value clings in barely

Living limbs bowels vow

Be buried near my hinter

Lands glittering zombies

Appear from the treasury

- 's crapulous surfaces

Stones now mourn

— *this common resource.*

•

Now to possess what po

- sseses us a fusting

Possession of every use

Glittering in *shmaltz* be

- coming *schmerz* feeding

What hungers won't

Die for forcible means

Employed from sheep

- walks to cities tracing files

Crossing pirouettes tra

- verse enclosures forcing

A zero degree an endless

Consumption devours

Things already so devou

- red mulched in a pretty

Sweet parody of a soldier

- 's mimetic energy

— *whoa so inexhaustible.*

•

This identity has no organs it

Can die without any body

Dying an eggshell a skin my

Slave morality being landed

Gentry laws of settlement in

- demnify these instated limbs

No organs know what to use

— *a thing is not to use it.*

•

Say direct seizure *haute*

Finance arouses the dead

Like my need for credit

Contracts a name a multi

- tude of situations a crisis

Seeming communal im

- posthume *munis* in latin

Means *gift* 'immunity' be

- ing the gift's refusal so

We've refused & organized

Our refusal to go down

Amping up the logic what

A horror i've become

The nation's good taste

For bodies so shorn of

Names historically ex

- posed to force no tree

I being every one of them

— *things sheep are driven from.*

•

Feel my thing slipping in

- to unspeakable pleas

- ure this shit equals com

- munal leveling practice

Breeding distinction the

Way yr credit hole honors

Dishonorable stink holes

Sustaining accumulation

So dispossessing dis

- emboweling debou

- ching already drained so

- ldiers can fuck me can't

Relieve my bowels

Whose body's no bound

- aries die of all we are

Dying from doing this

Being common waste

— *wild beasts the birds.*

Rob Halpern is the author of several books of poetry, including *Rumored Place* (Krupskaya), *Imaginary Politics* (Tap Root Editions), *Disaster Suites* (Palm Press), and *Snow Sensitive Skin* (co-authored with Taylor Brady). "Usufruct" is part of an ongoing collaboration with Thom Donovan. Currently, he's co-editing the poems of the late Frances Jaffer together with Kathleen Fraser, and translating the early essays of Georges Perec, the second of which, "Commitment or the Crisis of Language," appears in a recent *Review of Contemporary Fiction*. An active participant in the Nonsite Collective, Rob lives in San Francisco.