

Traitor

Richard Buckner

You woke up too late, but know what they thought
While you were waiting for the strangers that had gone
Somewhere to stay together apart,
Where everyone traded as they faded in the dark,
Caught in the lights they couldn't show through
And just beyond they'd always known you
Would give it away, even as dust,
Falling just out of frame, leaving everything untouched, Held and returned.
Who did you cry to?
Was someone else too close to find? You sold what you'd saved, woke where you'd lie
And said what they wouldn't say to the shadows in the night
Left in your place and still lashing out,
Coming to life to make you finally live it down. O, watch that temper, now.
Is it worth it, wasted?
How far will you get?

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