

from *Hannah and the Master*

Hannah and the Master is a retelling of the Heidegger-Arendt affair, a hybrid of prose and verse, in which android-like replicants of the two thinkers are brought back to life in the twenty-first century, at a time when global climate disruption has replaced (or maybe just magnified) the threat to humanity of European fascism.

MARTIN OR MARTIN R.

A man who could admit that he had done wrong

at home in the black notebooks.

A civilization in error. A master:

*When the attentions change / the jungle
leaps in*

Is “thoughtlessness”? Is it thoughtlessness that we hold at arm’s length, that we observe in others, that we cannot recognize in ourselves, until it’s too late?

*even the stones are split
they rive*

Or,

Thoughtlessness, that great golden jewel.

*enter
that other conqueror we more naturally recognize
he so resembles ourselves*

Worldlessness of lovers and of Jews. Who have only the earth, are
ADAM. Heat without life. Vegetative principle. A master:

We want the creative faculty to imagine that which we know

Book of the earth. People of the book of the earth. The archive.

we want the generous impulse to act that which we imagine

The earth is the archive of all potentialities. The world a virtuality of the
earth.

we want the poetry of life!

In flight from this, with Sputnik, HANNAH R., in space. Calling from
the earth to the world, that fragile network, that dulled ear.

GIGANTIC

And yet joy?

Joy in the world?

As it slips from our grasp, decentered, an eruption in raw earth. To king
is to thing: *For God's sake let us sit upon the ground.*

If joy in this world can save the world. This from HANNAH in all her
fierceness. In spite, because of, memory. In *das Katastrophenhaft.*

In memoriam, the MASTER: "He who thinks greatly must err greatly."

What is this Titan that has possession of me?

The ground.