

Burren Litany



Thou O Burren hast opened mine eyes and my
tongue shall announce thy praise

Strong grey, defiant grey,
Speckled, freckled grey,
Spilled grey, frilled grey,
Shattered, splattered grey,
Smooth grey, *Orate pro nobis*

Splodged grey, etched grey,
Fluted, muted grey,
Scored grey, gouged grey,
Slitted, pitted grey,
Fossilled grey.

Orate pro nobis

Sand crumbed grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Moss bearded grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Brownny, peaty grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Pocket hollowed grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Softly folded grey, *Ora pro nobis*

Steady grey, leady grey
Flakey, slatey grey,
Foggy grey, smokey grey,
Warmed, scorned grey,
Clerical grey.

Orate pro nobis

Morning grey, mourning grey,
Dusted, crusted grey,

Cloud grey, proud grey,
Muddled, fuddled grey,
Piebald grey.

Orate pro nobis

Elemental, regimental grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Sea smoothed grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Featured erratic grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Dark cave grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Crunched gravel grey, *Ora pro nobis*

Monastery grey, hermitage grey,
Dolloped, scalloped grey,
Plover grey, eagle grey,
Spiked, gryked grey, Pavement grey.

Orate pro nobis

Sun-baked grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Wind cooled grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Worn statue grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Celtic cross grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Stone bishop grey, *Ora pro nobis*

Cemetery grey, tombstone grey,
Shadowed, hallowed grey,
Feathered grey, stippled grey,
Mysterious, imperious grey,
Crumbled grey.

Orate pro nobis

Fanore blued and bronzed grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Mullaghmore twirled and swirled grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Corcomroe prayerful abbey grey, *Ora pro nobis*.
Blessed Blessed Burren grey, *Ora pro nobis*
Santa Maria de Petra Fertilis *Ora pro nobis*

Amen.
Amen.
Amen.
Amen.

Lila Stuart lives in Belfast. Her poems have been published in: Washing Windows, Washing Windows Too, and Burren Insight as well as in Poetry in Motion Anthologies: Write Up There, Making Memories, Matter and Resonance and Find and Vision. She also has been published in local periodicals and magazines.

Painting: *Midnight on Burren Pools* by Manus Walsh