

**Figure filled with fault**

After the night  
sombre bell  
Eating paper bread  
Drinking gravel water  
lock town

early mockery  
From Hunchbacked birds  
Hey Mister nobody  
Mister Alone  
heard them  
Propped between trees and water  
between nurses and swans  
zoo of the willow groves  
locks and chains

I slept  
Like dog in kennel  
Sleeper sailors sailed my ship  
solitary  
Straight  
she shook  
Dodging the stones  
in the dark  
Like the water  
clearly  
crooked  
blue

Running truant  
from time  
innocent kennel children  
boys in the night groves  
boys among willows  
The birds the grass the trees the lake

wild tall boys  
jump out of their  
chained eyes  
chained bones  
Laughing in the unmade park  
On out of the opening  
until day  
Until the bell roar

*Phoebe Thomson      London*