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Seismic/Ley lines

Brook WR Pearson
University of British Columbia

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Seismic/Ley lines

Pearson: Seismic/Ley lines
a Farley Mowat cast on the edge of society
where the camp is made

violence comes in straight lines
plotted by holes drilled into the
ground and filled with charges
connected with cables and
telemetry broadcasts to the
waiting truck

temporary a tent city of
a day in hot shot while hotels
the locals resent the attention given their women

trailers and planks and x-boxes and televisions or forty dollars
take the company's money and

straight lines between new
monuments under the skin on the
surface of the bones of the earth

the violence is here too in brawling men
whose society is a patchwork of the
effects of violence and desire along
straight lines

they're new
miners prospecting
for
earth-
quakes in

(we rest on these men's
shoulders along with the seventy
pounds of gear they carry
along the ley lines that chart new points of
interest for the society that pushes them out into this
wilderness

the firmament

we rest there
and we protest there and we know nothing
of their lives or of our
guilt

slashers and drillers
and jughounds and shooters before
the geophones dial home and tell the
violence where to focus its attention
in the Earth

our society a patchwork of
our contradictions and our desires)

shanghaied dropped down cellar doors
addictions and desires a patchwork of trapdoors and ley
lines of flight
into the New West

(the
barkeep
my dad told me would keep a
pea
a dried hard
pea
between

they did shape analysis to show that ley lines are just the human
connection of three or more points in random space

his
fingers to make the
pinch of gold dust for a
shot more valuable maybe in the
Chilkoot at Dyea or Canyon City)
still digging

those lines and used them
to search for the earthquake

but then they walked

