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# Snowscapes

Derk Wynand

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# *Snowscapes*

DERK WYNAND

## Here

Here  
wolves hunt in packs,  
men in pairs.

Crippled deer  
scent the air,  
a bitter perfume.

The deer strip bark  
from saplings,  
the wolves strip flesh  
from the deer,  
and the men . . .

no,  
I will not draw  
your conclusions.

Whatever happens here  
happens when it is snowing.  
Whatever happens now,  
you will find  
no trace  
by the time your arrive.

## Skating down a Dutch Canal

skating down a dutch canal what do you think of snow  
on ice over water or brimstone and fire do you hunger

for edam cheese gouda and bittersweet chocolate or the  
red cheeks of that young woman behind you much sweeter

can you hear a rhythmic breathing the hiss of her skate  
and does it remind you of calvin does that disturb you

would it if you were not skating down a dutch canal can  
you concentrate on red lips and blondness or merely on

snow-covered windmills on whitewashed houses now do you  
imagine her inside and you the would-be lover her pious

father staying up late reading hebrew never a man to  
put up with bundling do you picture him at work cutting

diamonds for african merchants does it trouble you to  
think about jewels cut for swiss watches would it be

easier to recall his love for all germans his daughter  
skating behind you singing of claus and of marsman their

worship of cheese as you skate in a straight line to  
rotterdam sister city of zurich where you loved her