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Renaissance Willows

Where was the lush breath of the peat Where were the flakes of her silence falling

Where was the minstrel you fucked that minstrel of the sky *Beneath the willows & his flowing braids*

Where was that famous bourgeous moment Where was the algebra of his late late life

Where was the child's rattle of last farewells Where was the refuge beyond the silver moors

Where was the one moon
Where was that couple walking solemnly along the pier

Where was the chameleon dressed like a Medici prince Where was the snow & its simple mind

Where was the diamond dragonfly hanging around her neck *Where were the thistles by the sea & her thorn-spiked passions*

Where were the inky maidens encircling the red clay vase Where was the wreath of jasmine jealousy

Where was her Lourdes morning & the falcon falling Where was the gale of the night & the Provençal light

Where was Venus rising in the palm of my left hand Where was the weary mistress come home at last