

SKYSCAPE

by JOSEPHINE ABBOTT

Driving home from Hull across the flatland,
we're overcome by a sky that's so outrageous,
so alien-vivid and science-fiction-curious

we agree that if this was a painting,
we'd think the artist mad, or out of money –
down to the very last, unlikely colours.

The shades of reds and purples
are so impossible, and the unexpectedness
so tempting,

we take a detour through blazing mountains,
go for a dip in the flame lagoon,
fire-walk across burning coals of cloud.

Look over there – just past the spilled volcano
there's moorland bruised with heather,
a little further on, the sea dark-purpling.

@JosephineAbbott, Derby's
previously published in *Trying Not to Levitate*
by Josephine Abbott (Blinking Eye, 2006)

I hope you've enjoyed reading these poems while you wait.

I had great fun editing this issue. Many poets tell me they think Poetry in the

Waiting Room an excellent idea. I totally agree.

(Cathy Grindrod, former Derbyshire Poet Laureate, www.cathygrindrod.co.uk)

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