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Tomorrow's Living Room

Jason Whitmarsh

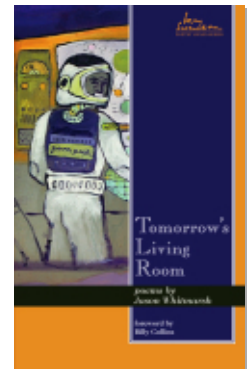
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THINGS THAT STILL SCARE ME

First, failure, misery, and death. For me,
but mostly for my children. Losing you,
or any variation on that theme.
Keeping you only by enclosing you
in pity and despair, or risks thereof.
Public speaking, outer space, slow flies,
balloons. Not knowing what I'm thinking of.
Old men in navy-blue, repeating lies.
Next, sitting here with less and less to say
as the hours quicken. Spinning the hearsay,
rewinding facts, unspooling opinion.
What's worth, within me, keeping an eye on?
The doubt, the shame, the muted "I sing"?
All duly noted, all unsurprising.