

Tuning Fork

© 2018, Stephen Bradley & John Sturgeon
7:15 mins. 4.1 surround sound

poetic text & vocals: **Sturgeon**
coronet, percussive elements, electronic synthesis & mix: **Bradley**

Monday, August 21st 2017 at 11:31 AM MDT,
experienced the full totality of the Solar Eclipse at 28° Leo
on Mackey Reservoir –
just N.W. of Craters of the Moon National Preserve – Idaho.

Drove north up 93 –
Las Vegas to Jackpot NV on the Idaho border –
Then got up at 4 AM Monday
& headed through Idaho's Snake River Valley
on schedule to make Mackey Reservoir by 10 AM.

43.96° N, 113.70° W –
Mackey Reservoir is situated less than a mile
from dead-center of the 70 mile swath
of the eclipse shadow –
that raced east across America.
Totality lasted a full 2 minutes 17 sec.

Moments before the eclipse reached totality
a flock of 6 geese flew extremely low overhead,
then turned sharply heading northwest across Mackay Reservoir –
beating away from the eclipsing sun.

Tremulous light swallowed the all about – dimmer.
Yet held in that ebbing
enough – *seeing of the world* – fall-away
to atoms of amorphous paisley.

Uncertain shadows conjured spatial distance unequatable.
Then in one last breath of fading –

Whoosh:
– some ineffable being
blew the candle of the cosmos – out.

Dark:
– crystal clear night sky, stars everywhere,
Mars & Venus –right there– with the diamond corona.

Quiet:
– silent as our last moment on earth

We – clustered around that little reservoir,
sucked in our last air and held breath.

Instantly – the taut rules of space & time
levitated the unity of Faces
towards the un-foreseen portal.

Then:

– as with the deepest things we know:

Come & Go

Gone:

– the diamond ring no more,
– the night sky blinked out by daylight.

All – struck with collective bliss.

Just after the eclipse waned
a solitary screeching King Fisher flew low overhead –
like some – *Clarion of Change*
signaling an all clear.

Who knows what these signs mean,
or, even if they were signs –

Leaving the reservoir –
joining the arterial exodus
from everywhere to – “Craters of the Moon”
the destination seemed so apropos
after such celestial magic –

Ridiculously crowded –
most were there as I was:
Eclipse Viewers not yet – *willing release* – from the spell.

Like a festive family affair – *happy campers*
soaked full with the eclipse’s staggering impact.

Each glance & spontaneous conversation
affirmed a bond of recognition
that went beyond the eclipse itself:
palpable resonating
with primal community –
on board – a self-tuning itch
for *transcendence*.