

Fear not the Wall

By Alex Toms

Fear not the wall, for it's a myth
that it can be seen from outer space.

Fear not the wall, for its blankness inspires
the voiceless to scrawl their dreams.

Daylight unmask their slogans, bold as basking lizards.

Fear not the wall, for migrant seeds

find refuge in its crevices. See how
the red valerian spears the grey and in turn

gives shelter to glittering insects.

Fear not the wall, because a man with egg shell skin

never fell from it, but know that only a man
with egg shell skin would want a wall to be built.

Know that if you put your ear to the wall,
someone on the other side is doing the same.

Fear not the wall, for one day a rebel gust
might blow a curtain of ivy aside to reveal

a wooden door with a rusty latch. But if
there is no door, there might be footholds,

and if there are no footholds,
know that hands will haul you to the top.

You can see the city from the wall:

Skyscraper lights pulse *welcome, well, come.*