

edge  
territory

Jloyd robson

# **edge territory**

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**isbn: 0 9524251 81**

**first published 1995 by black hat & printed in wales**

**designed, typeset, fotograff & produced by black hat**

**wi thanks for assistance to:**

**alan walsh reprographics**

**carl harwood**

**grassroots**

**south glam cdt.**

**& special thanks to:**

**chris torrance.**

**cheers all.**

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5 til 2k ad:**

# outside the bar past the last order peal

outside the bar past the last order peal on pavement reels  
some caffinedodgin 60's casualty

: dredged up & nevadowned tramtracked & taffestuarytowned brotherm of the land.  
still wears  
his acid twitch & barkin eyes

& leaves the Oak's blue bloodied neon face powdatraced & blank

R  
blank  
I  
N  
S

fluorescent spaced

announces some hardcuntpsycho resides

(the B & A have been acmedenied

**BRAINS** ain't defined & hard R is I

N  
S inside)

our aquarian man declines.

yet  
likesay  
weird is as weird must  
so understand &

: steals

enginewarmth from below the lights outside the Oak on red nucleo Newport Road  
& blaze to cool by amber night.

: seeks

a cab to some flowapowa hole befor i were born & probably longgone  
where he once knew a girl.

: signals

2tha plenty a sherpas & escort vans black&white taxis yet cabbies decline  
stare headward & stride motorised past the infirm & infirmary separately  
& into town

where tamazzimouthed punters bully & bicker in valleylines  
blade tides  
runners

& moneylosin fares 2tha CRI\*.

: smuggles

some dodgy onceheard & heldas truth clasped like daisies of subservitude  
the stems of flowers or g-uranium roots.

: considers

goin back 2tha bar & back on cue baggin a stool by the women's loo  
still warm & not gon too far too soon anymor yet

outside the bar past the last order peal the pavement reels  
swaps trips for a graft of skin  
& the warmth of a ride 2tha CRI.

\*CRI = cardiff royal infirmary.

# crwy's; extract of cardiff

gardenlines of  $\frac{1}{2}$ tiles, concretepaths & a month's pile of rubbishsacks  
pavementrack 4 plasticcarriers  
: blackbags ranout weeksago.

library & graveplots  
: peerlessjimdriscoll bodyrots here.

the main slope

: pineshops & victoriawines  
zebrastripes & gayline blinds  
royjenkins hall, p.o, back'n'sides

- : freddy's bargains, boavista  
brooms&balloons, tophatcleaners  
yc sports & xl fishbar
- : lo-cost & firstchoice  
venus (themother of all kebabshops!)  
alma's eezeewear & zio's.

### the overt ripoff germanshowroom

- : kinky meisterbatür or somesuch disastrous tradenameslander  
fences culinary furniture  
neff, aga
- : faces ergonomicallyfine cratesrapnel outside jen's store  
just simple groceries  
she feeds the slimsisters sucked on crwys road

- : muchmaligned fanny street  
flora street  
harriet  
steps ta violet row.

## **flexitime policestation**

- : pretencestatin, nevaopen, disappointin, engrossin  
engraved witha date (1886).

## **the railtrack**

- : bloodybig **IGNORE THE LAW**  
splashesout the bridgebrickwall in drippin whitewash letters  
gravelsleepers reveal the holygreenstar above us  
pearlassurance 4tha squallin pigsuck ribcage of crwys stratas

: gower street  
monthermer road  
malefant

**dogfield & beyond the datarim of tortoiseshell'desire&need.**

## **rosa's slitblind expat mezzahall**

- : nota platecrack & asnormal closed.

## doorways slipinsneaky; leadta shoptopcity

- : ¼ lit & windowframed in yellowrows of paperbacks  
fulldetails of damp, draught, capturedlight.

## sharkstore

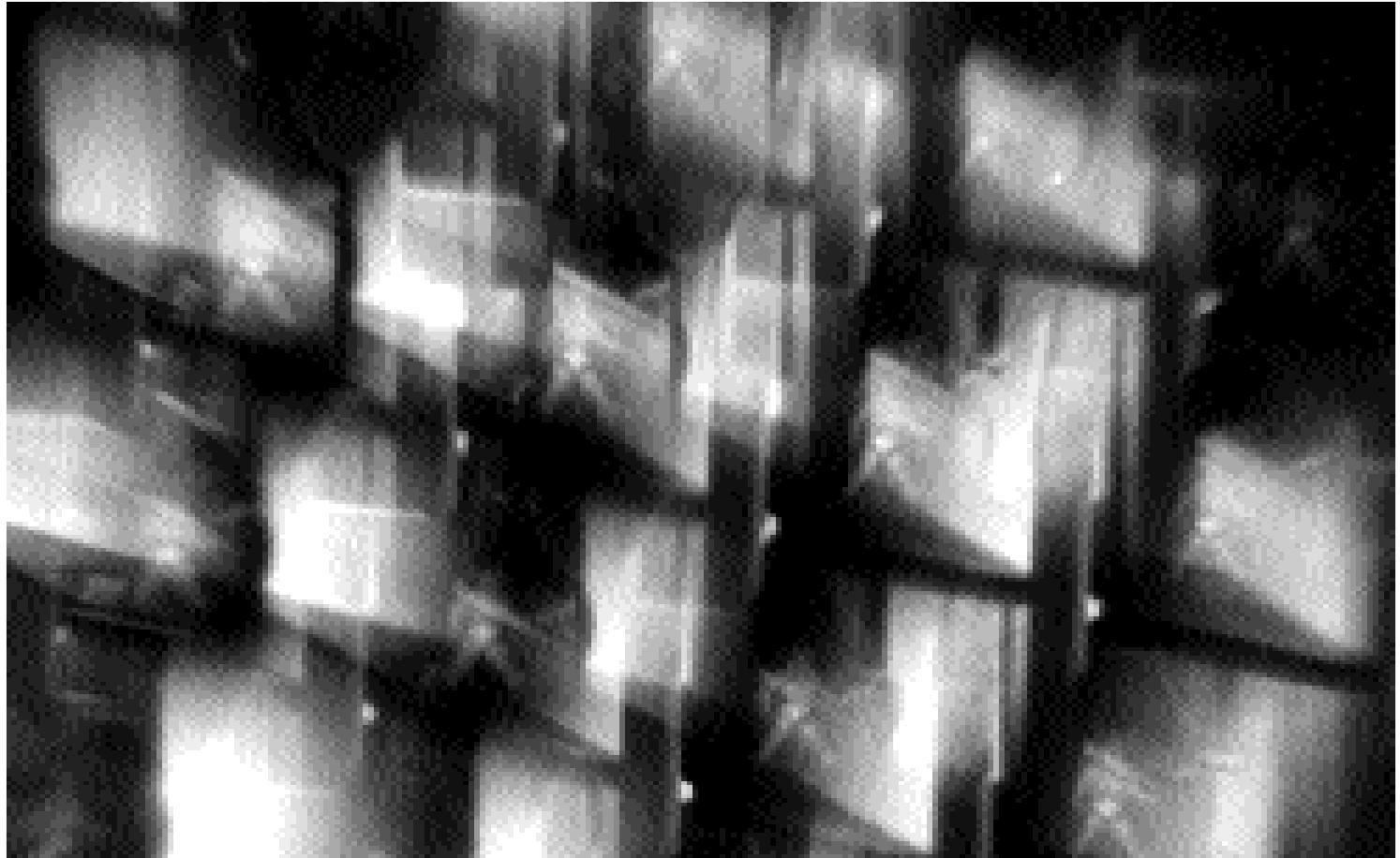
- : londonscottish pawnoffice conveys the news in red random neonletters  
**LOANS**  
& below, an ad4 christmas hampers covers the invisible thirdball
- : cardiff orb; superfluous bouncincrusader 4tha nation's financialreward  
recovery, debttherapy  
get your work in wales
- : debtcollecta, counta serva  
p/t receptionist  
baliff, cleana
- : the gdp grows here  
branches cathays & roath  
a dynamo's warmth ona choppertyre

& downta city road      deathjunction      the george

- :      congestedgut relieved by throats of crwys      richmond      mackintosh  
severedknobs of strathnairn      glenroy      keppoch
- :      inevitable couplin of cathays & roath  
microcosmic thrust
- :      transcendent dust rasps from traffic  
traintide flows, cuts crwys static



.....brain entry.....



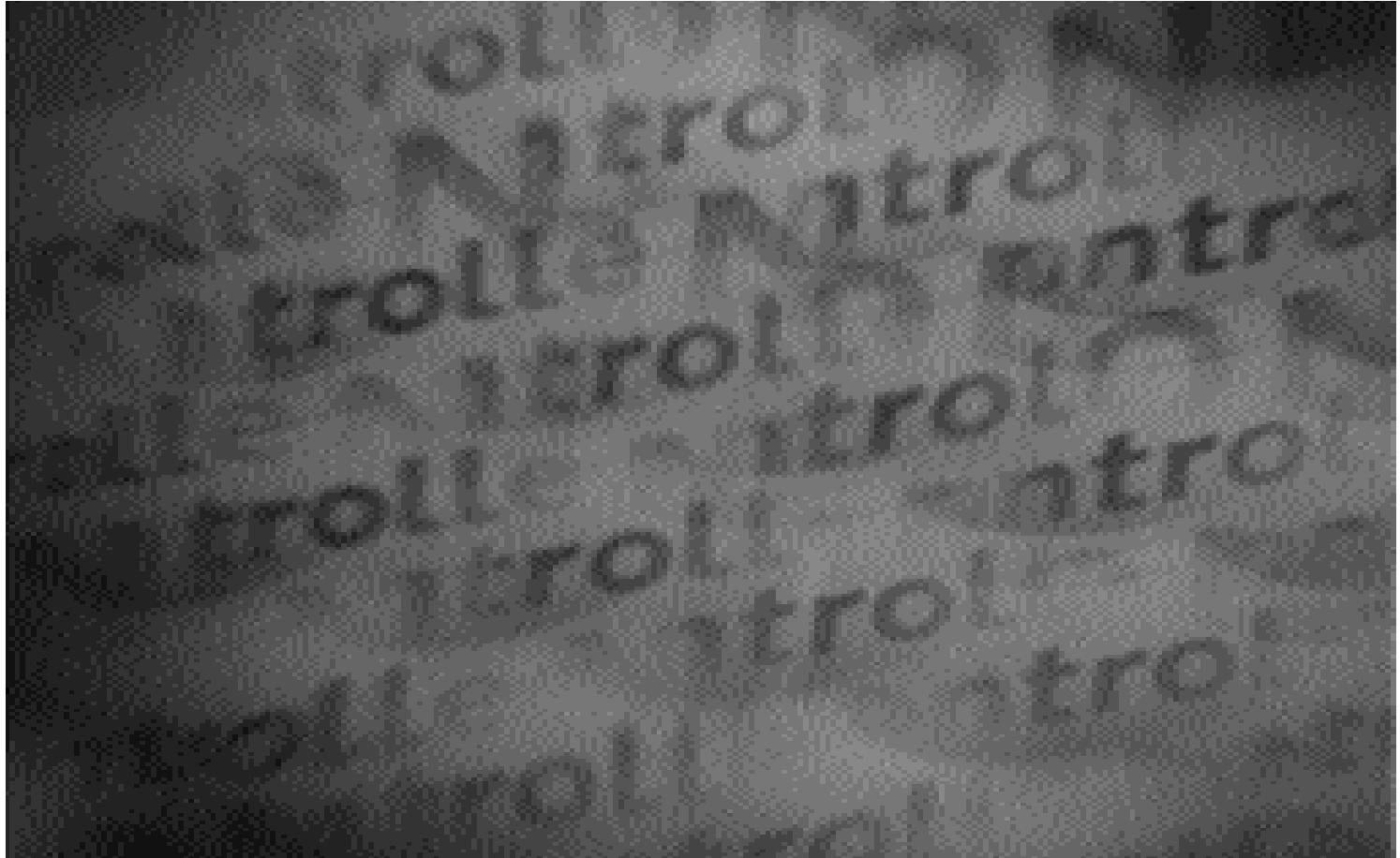
.....keep movin.....



.....street readin.....



.....edge territory.....



.....zone no control.....



.....traffic snarl.....

# edge territory

younger      pliable      susceptible to surroundings      i did a terrible thing  
:      lost my accent  
            became a chameleon tongue

still now if you listen my voice is a run  
from liverpool to plymouth with a twang of aar cardiff  
reinforcing again.

i lost it.

not quite accident as prerequisite of change:

moving to monmouth from capital city  
via  
gwent's blackbird brook or crow housing estate nook  
at foot of valleys  
populace depository under twmbarlwm mountain;

from new town to no man's land  
bland pig in middle  
neutralised nexus of races.

where i schooled  
comprehensive  
desired the permissive  
fucked my way round a middleclass district of public school girls  
uniform in their bloody big houses

i was smuggled to where welsh heroes gained their reprieve\*  
boarders in dormitories  
daughters of english society stroke welsh landowning all the same  
spent cartridges of sperm rioting down double barrelled names  
we fucked out our class & histories.

**yet**

**there is irony: sucking on english breasts under osbaston hanging tree  
grey stockings like a rioter's noose rubbing me  
petticoats stripped humid with sweat  
arousing a radical history**

**swinglow sweet corpses shadowed by trees**

**swinglow sweet to the rhythm of great great granddaughters pulling on the seed**

**rebecca come see**

**not much a revenge i agree**

**but**

**rebecca: a petticoat writhes in blood**

**a celtic cock fucks with love**

**a home counties' girl aches as i push as i push**

**on a memory of grass bank virginity.**

**still**

**at the choice between cell or noose stands the tollhouse on hereford road:**

**white walls**

**flowerbeds**

**overused tarmac on the borderbound a466**

**rendezvous for torn hems of energy.**

\*

**the girls' school at monmouth sits partly on the site of the old county gaol:  
temporary home for some of the radics involved in the chartist insurrections  
of the early 1800's.**

**john frost, zephaniah williams & william jones were held at the gaol & condemned to  
death.**

**they were to be hanged & quartered but were shipped to australia following an 11th hour  
reprieve.**

# reasons 4 modern living.

again

babies cry this morning

still can't make them shut their screaming

cross painted terraces, reversing lorries

schoolkids ring      knock      know they're annoying

doorbells on their way

bogstandard british workingday:

beautiful as wake but suddenly shit

peelback curtains, behold the terrain

fake it

unable to soak up any more rain.

**car alarms  
teleselling  
smoke alarms set off by cooking**

**boilers drumming  
fridges mulling**

**semiskimmed defying dates in ways fullfat can't comprehend**

**tandoori  
chutney  
silver crates  
leadlined sacks of keema nan  
chilled & filled with heat for one**

**hum of modern living.**

**grievous turquoise streets      wrought      yellowstained with skips  
studenthouse shit piledhigh as terrace trees**

tarmac gardens worked by gangs  
fine til city winter  
slush, cold

seasonal adjustments  
perturbing disasters

ground subsidence under happy shoppers

houses grown from underground  
emerge from earth  
stand gradient land

peering basement panes grime pavement dirt  
architectural ruse to lookup schoolgirls' skirts

sneaky upward glances  
checks on neighbours, rivals.

**gobsa spit aimed at grinning mates  
hid behind perspex bus shelter plates**

**fuckoff's flow from a.m caffs  
(p.ms shut: own hours & clientele).**

**doors open  
people in with bagsa shopping  
spliff by window  
exposure shallow**

**older men enter launderettes to warm  
no harm  
no harm**

**café diners  
workers  
winos**

jacketspuds & gossipmongers

feel quite alone yet not vulnerable

valiumnan goes stealing unnoticed  
thinks what she wants to go with her cabbage

pisshead sprawling the street, crutches beside him  
fishing for sympathy  
amusing  
moral dilemmas for dozyarsed teenagers  
don't give a shit.

bus arrives late

schoolkids swap returning shifts with cleaning women & their deformities:

**harelips  
scarlet burns  
eaten faces**

**onslaught of orangefingered men  
clerical staff with the touch for the women**

**cleancut & pseudo official  
size 2 rubber thimbles on fingers  
rough touch but nipples get counted in sequence**

**head for their pigeon holes**

**olive panels  
offwhite walls  
conference & training rooms  
tunnels of ground out light, heat  
unavoidable i-contact with others they meet sliding hallways, midcorridors**

**instructions to fire evacuees  
(those who can read).**

**the charity shop harem:**

**irene & maureen  
priceup & tidy**

**above them  
an outlet for artists' materials**

**imagery  
syllables  
racks of time  
causes**

**police outside with fire appliances  
hoses aimed at mo's territory**

**man upstairs doused & ready for history  
gently talked out of it**

**reopened his shop in a couple days  
back within his community**

**irene & maureen livid**

**compassion of modern living.**

**vice squads buzz workgirls      youngboys      queens**

**no flies  
no shit**

**just police grinding free fucks  
then denying it.**

**youngwoman inserts her aerobic video  
squats & thrusts infront of the portable**

**younga brotha wanksoff, stares thro the window  
dreams of splayed muscular females.**

**aborigine men sung to death for marrying within their own families**

**cities fulla rutting divorcees.**

**far enda street announces vomit & piss**

**swastika**

**fuckoffpaki** madness  
criminal justice, the standard shit  
dodgy deals, landlords  
constabulary

messages left on windscreens: parking tickets & sheets a green, bold black words:

**“sortya fuckin car alarm pal, befor i sorts it for ya”**

anonymous new acquaintances.

severed heads on sticks  
surveillance cameras on every street  
police helicopters whipping up grief

traffic snarl stereobators  
5knuckles shuffling cruisecontrol bastards  
holy heavybass  
tinted windows

**blind 2tha kiting of creditcard fraudsters**

vibes of modern living.

**serried ranks of cannabis buslanes**

**quiet turmoil  
spurious dole claims**

**dickderv & panic check rastas & grin  
prozac & footy ona stillup morning**

**& newsagents proclaim:**

**almost 4hundred jobs in today's south wales echo**

**(countem)**

**reasons 4 modern living.**

# hiding out, herefordshire

farmer's rootveg fingers stitched in gloves of leather  
swears from tractor

streaked fields  
spuddled mud & poles, stretched boundaries

fresh growth valleys  
sunlit border, black mountains.

condense-dappled fownhope cottage: pink, pert  
strapped by hilltracks, blackbirds

potato-topped fields, sparse traffic  
hay-coloured meadows green-graded.

village shop, green man  
(spirit of land)

carpark ale & middleclass hassle  
summer fête & bouncy castle

babies, rain & homemade cakes  
(a cloud breaks)

(teenage extremities  
embarrassing memories).

.

now, i lower my head to pert lines on paper  
fine pink-eyed albino powder

(surplice & ruff for god's singers  
energy alchemy for wingers)

down amongst the glucose, fire ash, persil, cement dust  
dancing as only sugar moondust can.

birds rook my lair with injun chicanery;  
cash fantasies; crowd chestnut reliquaries

**(a restless history  
personal tragedies).**

**in the seasonal raze of my cyclic reality  
hiding from flames in the grate of past offerings**

**i find my self-exiled clarity  
find myself bordering extremities**

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