

Museum project Fossils. 19.01 20121

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Ode to a living Fossil

No one could prepare me for this,
A long and lasting affair with you
My darling Percy.

Hours, months without moving a muscle
Then suddenly, a flicker
A twitch
A pile of sand in a new place indicating secret activity whilst I was out of the way
Clandestine lover

For you I have bought a new house
With grass painted on the walls to make you feel at home when you wake up
From your ten weeks in the cool mini bar in the spare bedroom,
Eyes sleepy with dreams of dandelions and deserts
What I have for you now is a nice hot bath to oil your joints
And drip elixir into a part of you that seems more alive than the rest...

Your mouth,
A pink chasm of smiling reptilian happiness
At the smell of an iceberg or a little gem
Before forget me nots emerge and spill their blue flowers over your adorable face

How you have changed my life.
Without knowing it, you have slowed my head and sped my heart
Balanced that which maybe no human could do so well without words
Or soft caresses.

I just wanted you to know.

Darling Percy
My hairless beautiful
Bountiful and supremely challenging
Tortoise.