

Exercises in the A of B

by Bill Yarrow

to rescind the statute of imagination, cancel
the subscription of allegiance, walk the streets
of restraint, pilot the airplane of honesty, reenter
the data into the computer of turpitude, replace
the bulb of affection, cut the nails of beauty, cut out
the heart of ambition, sew on the button of dignity,
develop the film of fearlessness, climb over the gate
of vanity, reorganize the files of contempt, paint a portrait
of collusion, peel the skin of chaos, caress the flesh of
luxury, blow the horn of defiance, forget the name
of appetite, lean back in the arms of sensation, grasp the hand
of frenzy, take the temperature of diffidence, depress the gas
pedal of mercy, buy a case of probity, close the sugar door of
thralldom, and retreat into the craven cave of invention

