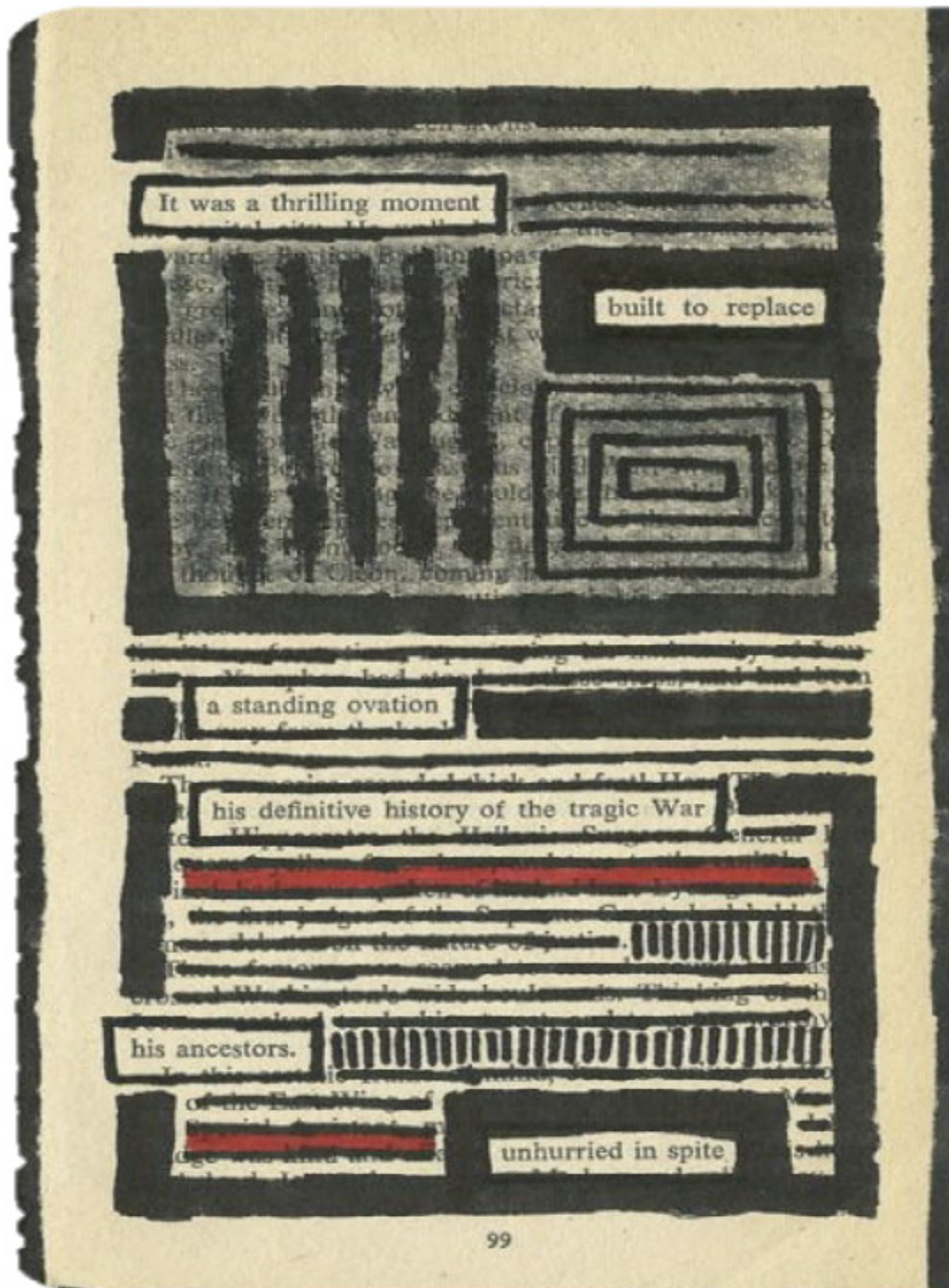


Erasure Poem Samples



why the nervous system after a certain time is in tune with the vibrations of the subtlest music and is eventually somehow lastingly modified by it. Above all we must agree that acting is a delirium like the plague, and is communicable.

The mind believes what it sees and does what it believes; that is the secret of fascination. And in his book, St. Augustine does not doubt the reality of this fascination for one moment.

Yet conditions must be found to give birth to a spectacle that fascinate the mind, it is not just a matter of art.

For if theatre is like the plague, this is not just because it acts on large groups and disturbs them in one and the same way. There is both something victorious and vengeful in theatre just as in the plague, for we clearly feel that spontaneous fire the plague lights as it passes by is nothing but a gigantic liquidation.

Such a complete social disaster, such organic disorder over- with vice, this kind of wholesale exorcism constricting the soul, driving it to the limit indicates the presence of a condition which is extreme force. In such times all the powers of nature are newly rediscovered the instant something fundamental is about to be accomplished.

The plague takes dormant images, latent disorders and suddenly carries them to the point of the extreme gestures. Theatre also takes gestures and develops them to the limit. Just like the plague, it reforges the links between what does and does not exist in material nature. It rediscovered the idea of figures, the archetypal symbols which act like sudden silences, fermata, heart stops, adrenalin calls, images, arising into our abruptly woken minds. It restores all our dormant conflicts and their powers, giving these powers names we acknowledge as signs. Here a bit of an idea of symbols which play before our eyes, but in an inconceivable way. For theatre can only happen the moment the inconceivable really begins, where poetry taking place through symbols which have been created symbols.

These symbols are symbols of full-blown powers held in bond.

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succession of moods or objects. Gladly would we anchor,
 but the anchorage is quicksand. The onward tick of
 nature is too strong for us. *Pero si muove.* When, at
 night, I look at the moon and stars, I seem stationary and
 they to hurry. Our love of the real draws us to perman-
 ence, but health of body consists in circulation, and
 sanity of mind in variety of faculty of association. We
 need change of objects, and fixation to one thought is
 quickly odious. We look at the same and must humor
 them, than you yet. One I took such a
 night, I thought I should not need any
 other book; before that, in books read; then in Plutarch;
 then in Plinius; all one same in the com; afterward I
 looked even in Belling; but now I read the pages of
 them as their languish, while I will cherish their genius.
 with I stares; each will bear an emphasis of attention
 too, which I cannot retain, though we in a would con-
 tain to be pleased in that manner. How strongly I have
 just of pictures, that when you have seen one well, you
 must take your leave of it; you shall never see it again. I
 have had good lessons from pictures, which I have since seen
 without emotion or reward. A deduction must be made
 from the opinion, which even the wife express of a new
 book or occurrence. The opinion gives me a thing
 that mood, and some vague guess at the new fact, but I
 know to be trusted as the lasting relation between the
 intellect and that thing. The child asks, "Mamma, why
 don't I like the story as well as when you told it me?"

