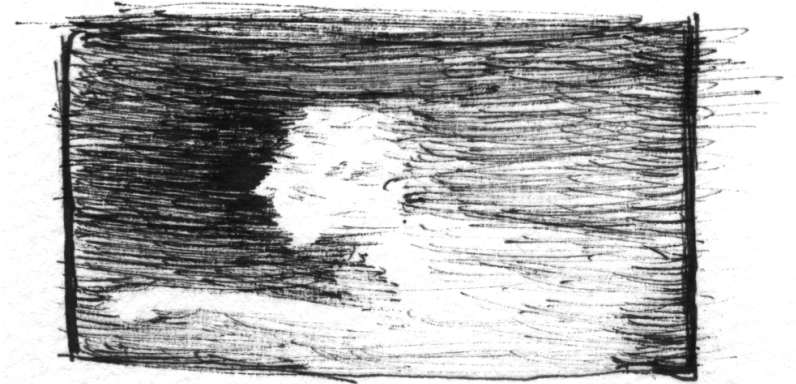


# only for a moment before forgetting

a very short novel

by

lindsay vickery



**lindsay vickery t e x t s**

pobox 1337 subiaco 1337 Western Australian 6008

handmade and gafferred signed limited first edition

/20

this edition © 1999 lindsay vickery  
text and illustrations © 1998 lindsay vickery

All Rights Reserved  
No Part of this Publication may be reproduced  
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted,  
in any form or by any means, electronic,  
mechanical, photocopying, recording or  
otherwise, without the prior written  
permission of the copyright owner.

only for a moment before forgetting

lindsay vickery



**lindsay vickery teXts**

Perth

1 space between the  
moments always fading  
always less the ever  
widening gulf and less  
and less defined moment  
closing around

[they can't all mean  
something]

2

the pause to remember again  
stupid stupid ideas loud  
mouth thoughts pushing out  
into the world

fine send it out cut the ties  
there it is but it turns  
around it flies back from the  
colourless dry real world  
into the warm darkness

3 flies around your imaginary neck in the darkness imagining itself again a new shape another face another voice yet another attempt at the definitive real lasting version close your eyes lets begin again

lets begin again at the edge

I should be standing I know  
that's important

4 in yet another version he is  
standing with hands  
outstretched into the gale  
of colour

5 but again back to the seated  
position staring down back  
along the spine straight as  
time straight as the night  
stars in the storm flying  
past the outstretched the  
lost lost again take you  
back on a street in the cold  
rain and light running now



now there's a change

6 searching for a voice that  
was whispering exactly  
where you knew all all all  
long long so whose voice  
welling up whose cold  
embracing draws through  
the rain through the  
unknown streets

7 saying step out join me  
stupid ideas in the night  
running back to the cell  
unnoticed most importantly  
wound up tight bursting  
to fly out towards the  
stars into the darkness

off the edge

step out join me

8 you sat down again burned  
the picture cut the wrists  
of her picture and sat  
those walled up years full  
of yearnings with their  
guts open slashed

9 slashed and bleeding walls  
that never replied never  
looked down or even away  
saying something forgetting  
meaning something only for  
a moment before forgetting

quiet

10 there striding on sick  
with european charm kneel-  
ing staggering tripping  
stumbling with an exotic  
noble empty night voice

11 looking for the last sen-  
tence to drag you in but  
there you are then and  
always there heading out  
to sea again looking out

12 and I am lashing myself to you

watching myself disappear  
from the shore

l i n d s a y v i c k e r y

was born in Subiaco Western Australia. Best known as a composer and performer, he has recently brought his closeted writing aspirations into the public arena through the libretto adaption of Robbe-Grillet's **Djinn** for the opera **Rendez-vous** and texts for several song cycles including **[descent of the celestial monkey wrench]** described by Robert Curry in **The Australian** as communicating 'in a language that is at once accessible and personal. With utmost sincerity of expression it explores a gamut of emotions, often close to the bone but never maudlin.'



**only for a moment before forgetting** is the second of **three very short novels** exploring obsessive memories and their relationship to language.



lindsay vickery



© 1998 lindsay vickery teXts

layout and illustrations Lindsay Vickery

Price      \$ 7.00 AUS  
              \$ 5.00 US  
              £ 3.00 UK