

Assyrian Bull

Five legs and human head,
Lucky not alive:
The only quintiped.

Not symbol, legs not five
(Insects incline to six)
A queen bee sites the hive:

Her sexless workers' sex,
A flying Nineveh.
The excavators' picks

Evoke Iraq's "Oi! Weh!"
That British haul took out
Their patrimony, eh?

Incestuous as Lot,
Diverse gene pool of one,
Variety and not,

Food for the proverb-prone,
A swarm dwells in a skull.
Skull of a lion. Stone

Inoculates the bull.
The bull has wings, not flight;
Sexist in her rule,

The queen has eggs, not might.
And are they vengeance, these?
Islamic acts of spite

Of former colonies?
Attacks of killer bees?
A Bull's mad cow disease?

.