

**Wilderness House Literary Review 18/3**

*Byron Beynon*

**SPANISH LANDSCAPE**

The day's heat lingers  
as the remaining grains of light  
withdraw to listen for  
the rhythms of cicadas.  
He thinks of Navarre, Lorca,  
Alhambra as he executes  
a Spanish castle on its hill.  
Unbearable hours underneath  
an unforgiving sun  
accelerates the mind's undoing,  
witnessed by a searching sky,  
earth and scorched plants,  
feverish veins jealous for  
the love of a throbbing landscape,  
at home with the shade's silent disguise.

JIMI HENDRIX ON THE LULU SHOW

It was wintertime,  
with the January curtains  
drawn as Lulu introduced  
his electric sound  
on her television show.  
Hendrix's guitar  
with his Experience  
on bass and drums  
as they played  
Voodoo Chile,  
followed by  
Hey Joe before pausing,  
to continue with a tribute  
for Cream  
by rocking the BBC studio  
with Sunshine of Your Love,  
impromptu pure and free,  
as the darkness outside  
wrapped itself around  
the house as legendary  
notes cast their late sixties spell.

LATER

I'll explain later  
when everything is over,  
when all the birds,  
insects and flowers  
have disappeared,  
there will be nothing left  
to worry about,  
we'll discuss it  
over drinks  
in a bar  
yellow with age,  
where everybody pays  
one way or another,  
there will be blood for  
the elected vultures who survived.  
The day is slipping away  
quickly and tomorrow  
we'll face each other again  
remembering all that was new,  
when taste was good  
on a street composing sunlit fields,  
followed by heart-breaking news.