



All the Names Given

Raymond Antrobus

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If the ability to hold two opposing thoughts at the same time and still function is a sign of intellect, what are we to make of Raymond Antrobus's depth of awareness, originality, and empathy—all turned inside out and refracted into prism-like hues of insight? Winner of the Ted Hughes Award, the Rathbones Folio Prize, the Somerset Maugham Award, and the 2019 Sunday Times/University of Warwick Young Writer of the Year Award, Antrobus splits his time between London and New Orleans.

Loveable

*The first time you told me you loved me
I didn't say it back,*

*which is to say
that I was not loveable.*

*Those who have loved me before say
I made them feel second to some dream I was having.*

*You know the thing with dreams
you're the only one that sees them*

*so when I say I didn't know what was talking
the first night you said you loved me I mean*

*I needed to hear it in the morning
hear it said when neither of us*

*could be anyone
except who we are*

MATT SUTHERLAND (November / December 2021)

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