Autumn

for Tony Thomas

Root-sharp winds blow, Fatal test each bough-shaking groan; Once passing siren's moan, Hums steady–low Pain's burden now.

Ripe beauty's maze Imprints glance, gesture, touch, belief; While still fresh-flaming leaf Compels the gaze, Recalls the daze.

Slow head-hands-feet, But steady yet are strength and skill; Shorter the day of will For long truth's fight, Clear still the light.

> Reuben Thomas 14th September 2013