

Clark Coolidge // From *Hoppy*

So Long

This land used to be flat now it's slant
the locals call it Anticline Acres you bet
said to be a good place for guns to go off
Hoppy's back in black on a megastone like Agamemnon
everybody shoots but nobody hits instead
there's a lot of falling off horses until
Hoppy deadens a guy and Windy lights out
must think he's in Dogpatch as Hoppy guffaws
for a dollar they'd all go home and now they do
as the music tightens up and their mounts shy

The Hayburner Blues

Hoppy's distracted nothing
but chicken flying
around the plain so
they wade outside into a darkness of guns
as friends but you can't shoot a ghost
and now the Thirties are gone and
Hoppy smiles like Benny Goodman
these eras they have viral benefits
tails of nags against the rocks
stony desert tropes you wear black for
Hoppy's learning to manage his shadows
you never know when a hero might need to fade
meet Mister Roberts in the Devil's Playground
the boys all suffering from saddle pressure
but we're too far west these rocks are too round
this yarn is busting its time frame
and now there's a judge name of Brubeck

Trustworthy Locator with Dog

It seems Hoppy raided the tile factory
they had a good supply of oats there once
consult the mat-green Rolodex of plan

Hoppy took a weekend to hike up his pants
broken silhouette of cog meat in the wind
see tumult

Then Hoppy ganged up on the other feeders
shards of the leash rule lay strewn
It's in the bucket

A lame imitation of Hoppy by Larry
throne room broken into flame gone
you'd have to toss your room

And lastly Hoppy has vacated the moon
his new fall line of Fisticuffs to Fussbudgets
you all come down

Once the Castle is Fixed

He's a corker
that's enough talking about the half of it
probably nails and drugs
you can see he's just tugging on them
a bit and we are relieved
ever seen board rooms and their pests
props that were specially chosen no reason
in particular ask Hoppy
he got a theme going just past Reno
the last Winnebago down the mountain
these boys use their spending money for spells
now look what I've polluted this with!
couldn't go much further than packed earth
slogan moon partition remnant
commerce and commencement that's life
here in these our padded shots it's best
we forget ourselves with our people

You Bet They Were

Agh Lucky's just a nice boy who goes for rides
Hoppy assures and pats his huge white horse side
the county seat is never very far better
stop those horse whistles pot shots
ring out then Hoppy's horse is Bellerophon and smiles
the crooks have had their fill and light out but
nobody's as smooth as Cassidy watch as he enters
the shack boys are ready for a stew
now Hoppy's a six-gun monk and blazes
bows and string-ties Ankrum who wonders
care to say goodbye to everybody? looks like
the vast west is under his thumb don't laugh
California will run into yet another ending
on which even the boys were planning

Reach and Be Quiet

Hoppy's trussed up the boys are distraught
but the maniac's a ham he'll lose he'll talk
too much freezes before Hoppy's eyes
flags fades down at Pinnacle Rocks
the home of death Cassidy's even more determined
Critical Rocks? crosses out the more cynical parts
leaves he's back nobody can keep tabs
Tentacle Rocks? something irregular going on
Hoppy tells his team to get up there!
they'll be Clinical Rocks soon seems
anybody can stop anybody on any given day
if only enough yaps stay shut Hoppy hazards
certain chance only in business duds
trouble is everybody gives up too soon

As Sung To

Old Hoppy's a woodwind treat
a shout carries as far as the Crystal Fort
presence of hepatitis questionable
early shots and the doggies stray
these boulders rolled from the Mailsack Range
now they're permanent there's even a concerto
it's the morning of perpetual afternoon here
now they're all going to start to get killed
horses waltzing around among the hoodoos
alright boys start to eat
Lucky's revealed as a fake
there's this little thing called attention
it's Hoppy and his gilded steed Rockburn
most memorable line: we all die facing west