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Mobiles

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Terry Gifford

Mobiles

It was a preference for the Quiet Coach -

Wait at the last blue bench

along the platform, sir – that produced, full frontal,

the Didcot Cooling Towers, famous

architect designed 'Cathedral of the Vale',

and circling on hidden strings above

the town, distant Red Kites, flapping.

Six dark angels in a reddening sky,

tails mirroring the shapes of six

still towers settling into the past

from which these Kites are revived

to scavenge our civilisation, this station

where all heads were pulled down over

little lit digital screens, flickering.