

## Tradition

Rose petal motifs  
painted in colours of  
strawberry summer  
Swirling  
oil on glass  
board or metal  
Applied skilfully  
with turpentine brushes  
and nub ends of tobacco  
the image is re-vitalised  
using the colour embedded  
into the palette as  
grey turret towers  
share the sky  
with aimless clouds  
A fortress of fantasy  
stands defiantly  
beneath the curling  
pennant of red  
gold and green  
set amongst rolling hills  
and static water courses  
He smoothed his thinning  
wayward hair  
as he signed his piece  
with a final fine-horsehair fanfare  
and lit up  
another cigarette  
with a swan-headed vesta  
illuminating his world  
of folk and tradition  
custom and belief  
because  
an Englishmen's home  
is, after all, his castle

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