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The Long Wash

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A short book
BM-2012-276
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The Long Wash is a short book about a long wash. It was made to be read in one sitting, then put back. The sentences stay with the stained tray and the morning. They do not wander off into a story they cannot pay for.

The morning made the sink smaller. On the stained tray, a long wash held still, which is not the same as being finished. I could hear running water and, under it, nothing that needed a name. The hose waited. Most of the work was in the waiting.

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I went back to the sink in the morning. The stained tray was where I had left it. What I had come to see was a long wash, and it had not agreed to be simple. I set the hose down and did not pick it up again until I had looked long enough.

If you license the file, you are not buying the sink. You are buying a described use of a long wash, for a term, in a territory, in writing. The watermark on this preview is the reminder that the looking is not the license. The stained tray goes on being itself after the agreement ends.

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I read the page the next day in a different morning. The a long wash had settled. It looked less like an event and more like a fact. Facts are easier to credit and harder to decorate. I prefer them.

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Close the book and the sink does not travel with you. What travels is the sequence: the stained tray, the hose, the decision to stop. Running water will be different wherever this file is opened. The rights in the file stay where they were.

I numbered nothing. A date would come later, on a catalog card, but the morning inside the work is not a clock time. The hose has no opinion about dates. The stained tray only shows that the mark

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was made, and that it was allowed to remain.

There is a kind of attention that starts only after the morning. In the sink I kept the stained tray clear so a long wash would have somewhere to sit. Running water came and went. I did not turn toward it. When I finally used the hose, the mark was smaller than the decision to make it.

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What I left out was larger than what I put in. The sink had corners I did not describe, and a window I refused to make into a view. On the stained tray, a long wash stayed inside its own edges. That refusal is the subject, as much as the color is.

Later the morning changed and the color cooled. I did not correct the stained tray. Correction would have been a different book. The hose left a trace at the edge, thin enough to miss if you were only passing. Running water filled the pause, and the pause was part of the page.

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A record of a long wash is not the thing itself. The stained tray took the light and gave a duller light back. From the sink I could measure the band with a hand, then with the hose, and the two measures did not match. I kept the second measure. The first one had too much of me in it.

I looked again at the stained tray. The a long wash was still there, neither better nor worse. The hose had done what it can do, which is very little, and enough. Outside, the morning continued without needing a sentence.

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A margin is also a decision. I left one, then widened it, then stopped before the stained tray became only frame. A long wash stayed in the middle, where I could find it again.

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Someone will ask what the picture is of. It is of a long wash, and of the time it took to leave it alone. The sink is not in the file. The attention is.

I copied one sentence into the catalog note and deleted it. The note only needs the title, the date, and the fact that the rights are reserved. The paragraph can live here.

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The running water changed pitch. I did not rewrite the page to match it. A book that chases the room never gets out of the room.

On the second reading the a long wash looked plainer. Plain is not a defect. It is how a field survives being looked at twice.

I set the hose parallel to the edge and did not draw. The alignment was the note. The stained tray recorded nothing, which I then had to write down in words.

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If the use is small, the license is still a written one. Scale is not a substitute for permission. The a long wash does not become free because the file is a preview.

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