

THREE ILLUSTRATIONS:

Picture of a happy child;

Picture of a happy future;

The interjector

by Edith Lyre

A HAPPY CHILD

If a child turns into an adult,

That's fine,

And if then the adult dies,

That's okay.

If a child keeps being a child,

Worry,

And if then the child dies,

Not okay.

Children who aren't adults are making

Problems for everyone, and

If you find a child that's happy

Not being an adult, not

Grown up yet, it's gonna be a serial killer.

(As long as it's happy I guess.)

A HAPPY FUTURE

Science fiction is full of happy people

In unhappy futures.

The happiness is how they showcase

Dystopia.

Things are bad, but everyone is smiling.

This makes things even worse.

Later on, you're smiling too and -

What's more -

You're breaking the fourth wall, something

Auf Deutsch,

Like *Veer home and glut on fondue*,

And blink.

Or (lens has just your profile) do you wink?

THE INTERJECTOR

Last time, your skin was lifted off the rest and
I tapped the cage of your rattling heart and
Fed it every day at Five PM until the cold ate
Away the rhythm and no one found my art
But, studying, pain from me's a privilege and a gift
Where for children who never grew up, the aptest
Abandonment is to the cold - Wingless animal,
Fly! Fly free, sink free, sink freezing to your death.