

English is a Foreign Language

by

Alain English

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Second Chance

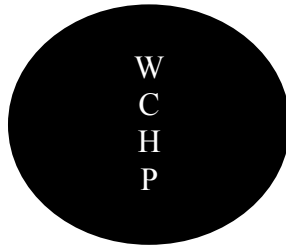
Supporting Mental Health in Performing Arts

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Second Chance

You may need it next

With thanks to Jason Harris of WCH for assistance with this collection and everyone I have met and who has helped inspired me here in London – what a ten years it has been!

Contents

Girdle Ness	5
The Ghosts of Old Pittodrie	6
The Highlander	8
Inferno	11
Piper Alpha	12
Theatre School	13
The Legend of Annie Inglis	14
Baby Cry Room	<u>17</u>
Across the Dee	<u>18</u>
Memory Swings	19
When I Pray to God	20
You're Fired	22
Need to Work	23
Finding a Job	24
Interview	25
The Customers Complain	26
Release Yourself	27
Memories and Dreams of Soho	30
The Greatest Game of All	32
There's Only One Jimmy White	35
The Story of Palestine	38
Here's to the Losers	42
We Are Shakespeare	45
Hurricane	48
Ten Years in London	50

Extract only

Girdle Ness

On the bench
I land myself
Some flowers placed
Beneath my feet
The white horse skips
Along the bay
It gallops past
As I give way
Surrendering at last to fate
My fingers grasp at heaven's gate
With weariness
I come to rest
Upon the rocks of Girdle Ness.

The Ghosts of Old Pittodrie

In years to come, there will be some
Who tell exciting stories
Of wonders that could strike you dumb
Fantastic football glories
They'll breathe sigh for times gone by
Their drink-fuelled tales will carry
Their listeners to where spirits lie
A place called old Pittodrie

In Aberdeen, cold, harsh and mean
Pittodrie was its centre
The stadium that stood had been
A playground for adventure
From granite streets there gathered fleets
Of fans, it was an army
That came to watch the wondrous feats
Of football at Pittodrie

Their jeering rants and rhyming chants
To hear them was pure magic
Opponents came and wet their pants
As fans became ecstatic
But when the players lost their way
The fans would vent their fury
The angry, foul-mouthed things they'd say
Would echo round Pittodrie
The team was dressed in white and red
The colours of the city
And on the pitch they fought and bled
With neither fear nor pity

The team took more than forty years
To win a major trophy
Success and failure, hopes and dreams
They all embraced Pittodrie

With Joey Harper chasing goals
Or Diamond posing dangers
The team would relish making fools
Of Celtic, Hearts or Rangers
And Willie Miller, Eoin Jess
Kept chasing all the glory
The homegrown players were the best
The greats of old Pittodrie

The coaches who have managed teams
McLeod, McNeill and Turnbull
They brought to life fans hopes and dreams
Brought trophies by the handful
But none can match the winning ways
Of he who's known as Fergie
The echoes of his glory days
Still linger at Pittodrie

But all this happened long ago
But still it's often mentioned
The heroes all supporters know
Immortalized in legend
And on the coast you still can see
The heroes in our story
Courageous spirits standing free
The ghosts of old Pittodrie.

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