

## RIGOROUS SELECTION

*Philip Higson*

Pater was right: intensity endures  
While prim propriety simply fades away;  
Rapture that flourished for one shining day  
Never from recollections's gaze withdraws.

Like a great maestro called to give encores,  
Time and again with brio it will play;  
Pater was right: intensity endures  
While prim propriety simply fades away.

It is those moments when emotion soars,  
Through bliss or beauty dazzling to survey,  
Above grim aeons of quotidian grey  
That stay with us. The rest our scorn ignores,  
Pater was right: intensity endures.

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