

We Need Another Amazon

London Underground commuters stand in lines	<i>after morning showers scent of lotus flowers</i>
eyes bowed down somewhere distant	<i>in a tropical trance guardua bamboos dance</i>
umbrellas furled with leaves folded down	<i>as if an exotic fern had begun to burn</i>
when all along the platform passengers light up	<i>like a gleaming ribbon to a rainforest vision</i>
tannoys screech to life echoing parrots	<i>with cockatoo calls and hyacinth macaws</i>
while above the tracks their striped red shirts	<i>ropes of heliconias dangle lobster claws</i>
that cling in the heat as the train arrives	<i>emerge from the mist in an anaconda twist</i>
doors slide open a knot of twisted limbs	<i>onto lapunas, kapok trees tapirs rummaging through leaves</i>
then a voice in the distance cries <i>Mind The Gap</i>	<i>somewhere in the blue the world is falling through</i>

Note: In 2018 Ben van Beurden, ceo of Shell, said ‘another Brazil in terms of rainforest’ was needed to achieve the UN target of only 1.5 degrees of global warming.