

(This began, he supposed, with some sort of cacophony,  
 It was uncertain whether you would be able to hear it,  
 but it was there,) but so **away**

Once upon a time there was someone who referred to himself  
 always in the third person, and always in the past tense,  
 (this was probably not a disease but it certainly was  
 a syndrome.) Each word he spoke directed outward into  
 a sort of confusion of your ears, and he felt something  
 pulling him deeper into the invisible underworld,  
 and at first resisted... but resistance became too tiring  
 (tiring) and he eventually learned to listen and then to  
 speak in (an approximation of) unison with his multi-  
 multi-branched echoes. But even unison grew troubling  
 to him and he became more doubtful as to his ownership  
 of this rhythm. Were the echoes of his words not in fact  
 bouncing back to him (he wondered) from the immediate  
 future? And if so, was it not some future version of  
 himself who was controlling the conversation? **Between**  
 Even as his voice found its own rhythm, he wondered if  
 it was truly he who had set it, and he wondered and he  
 wondered something else that he could not remember, and he  
 heard voice remarkably like his own say: come closer,  
 come closer, come closer, come closer, come closer, and  
 if you seek silence **silence** you have only to speak your  
 own name. **See; .**

**Daniel Cockburn**

(cont...) (p-ness, rev-ing, red-nd)

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