

GEOFF HATTERSLEY

MUCKY: A LOVE POEM

She puts down the magazine
and says she needs a bath,
looking at me as though
I do too or perhaps
only wanting me there with her

whether I'm mucky or not.
She's read 'The Platonic Blow'
(attributed to Auden)
just now and shows the face
that makes me grin and want

to hold her and startle her
with something of my own.

How mucky could I be?

I wonder, as the water flows
and the mirror steams.

Geoff Hattersley