



## "Local Colour"

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"Local Colour" is an interpretation of Paul Auster's 72-page novella GHOSTS. GHOSTS concerns itself with Blue, a private detective hired by a mysterious character named White to transcribe the actions of Black, a denizen of Brooklyn Heights. As Blue reports his findings, the reader becomes more aware of the intricate relationship between Black and White, and a tactile awareness of the role of colour spreads through the narrative. "Local Colour" removes the entirety of Auster's text, leaving only chromatic words—proper nouns or not—spread across the page as dollops of paint on a palette. What remains is the written equivalent of ambient music—words which are meant to seen but not read. The colours, through repetition, build a suspense and crescendo which is loosened from traditional narrative into a more pixelated construction. This image overlays all 72 pages of the resultant text into a single image, and was previously published as the cover of LOCAL COLOUR (Helsinki, nTamo, 2008) and was excerpted for the cover of AGAINST EXPRESSION: AN ANTHOLOGY OF CONCEPTUAL WRITING (Chicago: Northwestern University Press, 2010).

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