

## **SAVANT**

What did you have for lunch on October the third 1998?

Chicken soup and a salad. I was at home. I had the chicken soup in a blue bowl. The salad had tomatoes, lettuce and chicory but no onion because I didn't want my breath to smell of onion when I went to the movies with my brother in the afternoon. The movie began at 2.15.

What was the movie?

Godzilla.

What happened in it?

You want the whole thing? Shot by shot?

Can you do that?

Let's not do that.

Ok. I remember Godzilla. There's a lizard that's been irradiated by a nuclear explosion so it's a monster and it goes to New York and the American military drops bombs on it.

That's the one.

What did you do afterwards?

We walked back to my brother's place and had poached eggs on toast. I had two cups of tea in his red mug, the one with a chip.

What was the weather like?

Rain in the morning but it cleared up. Rain in the evening. Rain the next morning.

June the sixth 2004.

## **FATE**

I'm just saying you've got no choice

I have

you have of course you feel as if you have

I have got a choice

you've got a choice but you've no choice about what that choice is, you'll make whichever choice

whichever choice I want

whichever choice you want but you'll want what you want because you have to want what

I don't have to want

you do because of what you're like, that's what what you're like means that you're going to want what you want, because there's your genes and everything that's happened to you and everything else that's happening and all that stuff makes your brain be like that

like what?

like it is

what's it like?

I don't know of course I don't know nobody knows, but if someone could have that information they'd know exactly what you were going to

they can't know

you're crying about it now

I'm not

I knew you would.

But there's random

there's random particles you can't  
if you think you're like a random particle  
no but  
if you think you're a random particle just fizzing  
but you can't predict even where  
if you think free will is a random particle there's nothing very  
noble  
I didn't say noble  
so what is free will if it's not what you're like?  
No one could possibly have all that information.  
No, of course not.  
So maybe that's all right.  
I think it's fine. But it does change how you feel, don't you  
think?  
I feel a bit funny  
yes you feel as if you're hurtling  
hurtling through my life  
like the front seat of a roller-coast  
but I feel like I'm choosing  
yes of course  
but I feel like I'm in the front seat of a roller-coaster.