Martin Robertson

Wedding Night

Considers, musing at the sleeper's side, the initiated bride cycle of seed and growth, strength and decay; tomorrow's natural course following simply out of yesterday through a pillar of fire.

Tonight; intrusive memory's sudden force: chastity and desire, acts of childhood, parents, affection, age; necessary and unnecessary death; recurring terror of the unfenced edge, meaningless life; and love's affirming faith.

This poem is reprinted from Now and Then, the website devoted to the poetry of Martin Robertson, at http://rtnl.org.uk/now_and_then/