

LASSIE IN THE CESSPIT

Josef Winkler

I would happily have shot the first Lassie film, entitled *Homesickness*, which was produced in America in 1943 and featured the child actress Liz Taylor. Every year in Austria women and children from the farms drown in cesspits; never farmers, always women and children. If a child from a farm drowns in a cesspit, a ten-centimeter-long column will appear in the local newspaper for one's reading pleasure. After two days, with the exception of those directly affected, nobody will discuss the matter any further. In my own film, *Home Sickness*, when I have Lassie drowned in a cesspit, the country will be up in arms.

Translated by Adrian West

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SOMETHING HAPPENED HERE

David Gaffney

Izzy said that she was willing to have sex with me only if it was in an empty property that we didn't own. This was just the way she was, terrified of permanence.

So we made an appointment and dressed appropriately and the twenty-something estate agent happily agreed to leave us alone to test the 'vibe'.

We did it three times – once in an unplumbed Jacuzzi, once on the kitchen units, and once on the living-room floor.

Afterwards, we lay together imagining the psychic effect on the building's structure. They say that an orphanage has sadness in the walls; well, we had injected some love into the brickwork. This was a service we could provide professionally. Like the aroma of coffee, the echoes of recent sexual activity could be a powerful subliminal sales technique and I made a note to suggest it to a property consultant.