

Instructions for the Next Century ·
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Instead of spouse say sailing ship,
instead of dancing say
ancient ruins.

When you want love
don't say sailing ship, say
seven-or-eleven.

When you want music say sacrifice,
for if you dance
to that music someone will say

secret police which means
secret police and you'll be caught
with all the wrong words.

Say cellar door
when they take you in. Say it
until it means something else.

Say whipped cream when you mean
emptiness, say blue lagoon
when you mean nightmare.

If all day you've planned to escape
try to be silent. The most silent
words are ocean floor.

Say ocean floor, blue lagoon, whipped
cream over and over;
you will not escape

but other prisoners might hear you
and call it sacrifice, which will be
music to the few who remember.

These are your friends. Say seven-or-eleven
to them. Hold them in your arms
and call it ancient ruins.