



Sketches In The City - British Museum

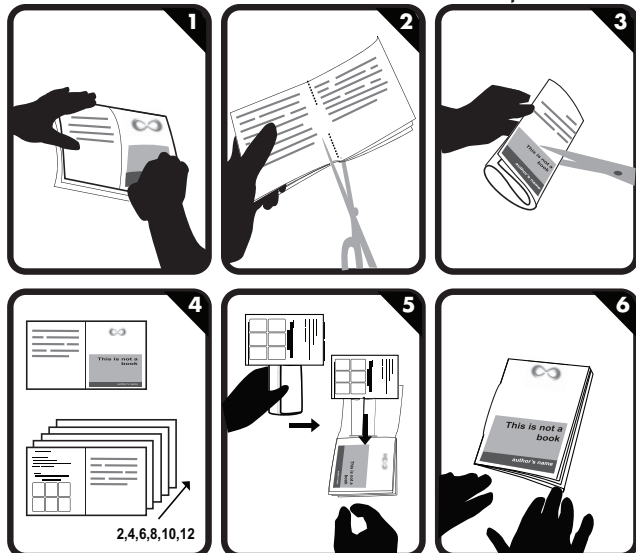
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Photographs, sketches and poems from observations in the British Museum.

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Totems poles tower above those below
 brotherly sentries adorned with sneering eyes,
 scythe beaks,
 crumbling teeth entrenched in rictus grins
 Splits and cracks run the length,
 hollow weeds which race through curled talons
 and folded wings,
 poised to wrench themselves free
 Yet, they perch on more docile figures
 hands clasped over chests
 benign faces at peace,
 content in their placing
 There is no hierarchy here



Their flashes snarl,
 punctuating layers of dust and age
 fragments blazing into life for half a breath,
 then sinking back into rigid years

Before the light has faded, there rushes a buzz
 excited cries and feet, a streaming procession
 dangling clipboards and shoelaces,
 clambering over stone and clutching at rock
 their frantic giggles drifting upwards,
 encircling cornices from centuries past