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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title Page; Dedication; Table of Contents; Acknowledgements; The gas-fitter's marriage; Silence, it means something; So long as they confine themselves to this chore; Sides of the family; A vacuum must have slipped into her then; A master key is easy to procure; Looking to the fittings; Extenuating circumstances; Indeed he can quite freely step inside; Looking at him as if he were a ghost; This sterile promontory; Nothing suggests adulterous proceedings; What? Gas in the tank, I suspect; A family Christmas; Predicates of appreciation; The gas-fitter's daughter The gas-fitter's daughter wakes upThe gas-fitter's daughter on stage; The gas-fitter's daughter at school; The gas-fitter's daughter leaves the cinema; The gas-fitter's daughter's ghost; The gas-fitter's daughter doesn't ask; The maths lesson solves nothing; While life is just preparing things off-scene; The gas-fitter's daughter at least has browner hair; The gas-fitter's daughter goes out; The gas-fitter's daughter explains the urgency; The gas-fitter's daughter uses fake ID; The gas-fitter's daughter's curfew; The gas-fitter's daughter shows Shane; Not talking The gas-fitter's daughter's recurring solutionThe gas-fitter's wife; Indeed I can quite freely step inside; A master key is easy to procure;

The ceiling becomes a marble slab; Nothing suggests adulterous proceedings; 'You know the interest that I take in you.'; As I stand there biting my nails; Life seems to be enclosed in steel and nickel; Looking at me as if I were a ghost; It seems that this time I have been mistaken; I spot the trap here, look again to the fittings; An explanatory wave of the hand; At last the minor leak is traced and sealed; I need not make up stories any more

'Indeed I can quite freely step inside.' (God)Notes; Copyright

Sommario/riassunto

A thoughtful, disturbing and darkly funny new collection by Anna Jackson, *The Gas Leak* offers a glimpse of the gaps and cracks that can exist between family members in everyday life. In the first section, a gas-fitter slips in and out of his own and other people's lives with his 'master key', concerned by his strained marriage and his adulterous feelings for his wife's sister. In the second, the 'gothic comedy' and 'epic tragedy' of his daughter's teenage life is deftly and humorously handled, as she deals with friends, boyfriends, her alienated parents. The third section follows the gas