### Ozymandias

- My name is Ozymandias king if kings
- Cold command
- A shattered visage lies
- Boundless and bare
- Trunkless legs of stone
- I met a traveller from an antique land who said
- Desert

### Kamikaze

- Little fishing boats strung out like bunting
- On a green-blue translucent sea
- Figure of eight
- Journey into history
- Father's boat & grandfather's boat
- They treated him as though he no longer existed

## Storm on the island

- We are prepared
- We build our houses squat
- Good slate
- Spits like a tame cat
- It is a huge nothing we fear

#### Exposure

- Our brains ache
- In the merciless iced east winds that knive us
- We hear the mad gusts
- Slowly our ghosts drag home
- Half-known faces

# <u>The Prelude – Stealing the boat</u>

- One summer evening
- I unloosed her chain, and stepping in pushed from the shore
- A huge peak, black and huge
- Trembling oars
- A trouble to my dreams

# Checking out me history

- Dem tell me
- Wha dem want to tell me
- Blind me to me own identity
- Never tell me bout dat
- Now I checking out me own history
- I carving out me identity

## London

- I wander through each chartered street
- Marks of weakness, marks of woe
- In every cry of every man
- Black'ning church
- Blood down palace walls

#### Tissue

- Paper that lets the light shine through
- Paper thinned by age
- The sun shines through the borderlines

### My Last Duchess

- That's my last Duchess painted on the wall looking as if alive.
- My object
- I gave commands; then all smiles stopped.

#### Remains

- All three of us open fire
- I see every round as it rips through his life
- The drink and drugs won't flush him out
- Blood-shadow stays on the street
- He's here in my head when I close my eyes
- Probably armed, possibly not
- Legs it, tosses his guts, looter

# War Photographer

- Spools of suffering
- Running children in a nightmare heat
- His editor will pick out five or six
- The reader's eyeballs prick with tears between the bath and pre-lunch beers
- They do not care

# The Emigree

- But I am branded by an impression of sunlight
- It may be at war, it may be sick with tyrants
- Cannot break my original view
- There once was a country
- I have no passport
- There is no way back at all

|              |          | •        |        |   |
|--------------|----------|----------|--------|---|
| <u>Po</u>    | $\sim$ 1 | $\sim$ 1 | $\sim$ | _ |
| $\mathbf{P}$ |          |          | _      | • |
|              | ~        | 91       | _      | J |
|              | _        | _        |        | _ |

- Steeled the softening of my face
- I traced the inscription on the war memorial
- The world overflowing like a treasure chest
- I went to your bedroom, released a song bird from its cage
- Play at Eskimos like we did when you were little

# **Bayonet Charge**

- Suddenly he awoke
- Stumbling across a field
- Hearing bullets smacking the belly out of the air
- The patriotic tear that brimmed in his eye
- His terror's touchy dynamite

## Charge of the Light Brigade

- Some one had blunder'd
- Theirs not to reason why
- Canon to the right of them, canon to the left, canon in front of them
- Stormed at with shot and shell
- Into the jaws of death, into the mouth of hell
- When can their glory fade?
- Honour the Light Brigade