

550. HOPELESSLY DEVOTED

Can religious belief  
Be ever so devout?  
As my love for you  
Wherein dwells no doubt

When the pious Imam calls  
His sky splitting cry  
Five times to prayer  
Make it five hundred!  
I sigh

When the songman sings  
Under the milky black  
We will gaze there together  
In timeless outback

Beyond the Buddhist walls  
Of Borobudur  
Where years are slim seconds  
Whiskered time to adore

The candles dance  
At the miracle proclaimed  
Transubstantiation  
Flesh raised up enflamed

Can religious belief  
Be ever so devout?  
As my love for you  
Where dwells ne'er a doubt?

*20/9/2005*

### 551. SMALL STEP

It is a small step  
From self  
Seek help in  
Another's grip  
Or seek a trophy too  
A companion, say?  
The trophy has lost its gloss  
Bad tarnish  
And cleaning a chore  
Time spent is a prison  
A low-crouching bore

With most people  
If eyes are firmly shut  
Pleasantness at the least  
Can usually be got  
So it is a fanciful small step  
From self  
Once more

*21/9/2005*

### 552. SMOKER'S COUGH

People who smoke  
Seem happier to me  
And the empirical date  
Backs me up  
On that one  
The simple poison  
A clue  
Inhaling destiny

But here's my subjective view  
I'm content in the afternoon  
But the morning  
Is a brute  
The evening  
A smile-blue  
Hazy plume

*21/9/2005*

### 553. DEFEATED SPIRIT

I see  
The defeated spirit  
Sunk in the deep bland  
Of self-neurosis  
With no Beatrice  
To glance back upon  
Where fear rules  
Undefeated and supreme  
And living is all  
Unconscious dream  
Where  
Do not disturb  
Hangs about  
Bones of chalk  
And the moral life  
Is all the talk

*22/9/2005*

### 554. EFFFRONTERY

What can it be?  
What can it be?  
Nothing but  
A superb effrontery!  
Bone pressure  
Archeological  
While mouth examines  
The more ephemeral  
Creation  
Is hidden  
Bit by bit  
Uncovered science  
Of fingertips

*21/9/2005*

555. DIRTY NURSE

It is feeding time  
Once again  
With the dirty nurse  
Out she pops  
Smiling  
A teeth decay  
Grin  
Knowing you'd  
Almost forgotten  
All about her  
And her nasty play

It's bedtime too  
As she strips you bare  
Her rank breath  
Dissolves  
The threadbare garments  
You wear  
You've worn them now  
For over a year  
And she knows  
There is no resisting  
Her bacterial leer

*After Susan Sontag*

24/9/2005

556. ID

He pressed it down  
Penny-pinching  
His own

But  
One day  
Id got free

And all that structure  
Fell away  
Beautifully

30/9/2005

557. PERFUMED MOUNT

'Tell the truth, but tell it slant'  
That angled barb  
No coward's rant  
Rather  
One hidden sign  
On a pole of doubt  
Guiding the brave  
To beauty's perfumed  
Mount

*30/9/2005*

558. VISAGE

What is the crisis?  
Is it mid-life?  
He wakes up  
One treacherous morn  
Turns  
And looks  
His own ugly visage  
Reflected perfectly

Run!  
Too horrible!  
Into the garden  
Carefully tended to  
Welcome escape  
Trampling clover  
In blind haste  
For pity's sake

And begins over  
The self-same  
Mistake

*30/9/2005*

559. FORM

There is honesty  
In form  
That meaning  
Cannot give up  
A balanced couplet  
In rhyme  
A literal deceit  
In time

*30/9/2005*

560. DISCOVERY

Now he  
Finds out  
What her  
Kindness  
Is about  
The crooked thorn  
Presses perception  
Into the  
Rubber bauble

*30/9/2005*

561. SELF DECEIT

Smoking promotes thinking  
That much, at least  
We know!  
Each poison suck  
Excites brain cells  
Primed at last to go  
On flights of  
Soaring trajectory  
To places  
Wondrous strange  
Then a cough  
A splutter  
Skipping a beat  
Shortening a life  
Of infinite range

*30/9/2005*

562. THROTTLED

The jubilation  
More crooked  
Than not  
In mid-life  
We find a  
Midwife  
For a fine  
Saying  
Describing  
The arousal  
From a nasty  
Sleep  
All taunts  
Thrown off  
Throttled  
With a sheet  
The bed is left  
Unmade  
The separation  
Final and complete

*30/9/2005*

563. BRAIN BOX

Celibacy  
A gift  
Box  
Not to  
Open

Brain  
A surgeon  
Restrained  
Cut goes  
Unspoken

*30/9/2005*

564. WALL WILL DO

Any old wall  
Will do  
Lean on it  
As trusty old  
Men do  
Rub up  
Against it  
As playful  
Kittens do  
Whisper to it  
As absurd  
Drunks do  
Hold it  
In your  
Rhythm  
It is solid  
It is true

*30/9/2005*

565. SCHOPENHAUER

Flopped about  
On the tide  
Of will  
The crest  
Of desire  
Mirrored always  
By ennui still

Music's tune  
A way  
For some  
For fewer  
Denial  
For most  
Oblivion

*30/9/2005*



566. BLIND MATRIX

Good intentions  
Count for little  
In the crooked game  
It is all  
Savage and  
Determined  
A magic square  
Concealed numbers  
Lie in wait  
So is it better  
To stalk  
Than be stalked?  
Then the best  
Is to labor  
To reveal  
Their pattern  
And face  
That blind matrix  
Squarely

*3/10/2005*

567. THRICE

An act of malice  
Thrice denied  
Threefold poison  
A truth  
Bent to lies

*6/1/0/2005*

568. TRIANGLES

'Emotional space' – safe  
Out bubbled  
The absurd clichés  
Sauntering in  
Multiples of  
New age  
Binned books  
The perfect mask  
He understood  
Watching  
Knee capped  
Repelled  
As hope  
Drained  
In salty  
Triangles

*6/10/2005*

569. THRILL

It's the big drop  
The tower of terror  
The mad mouse  
The rotor  
The mother of  
Roller coasters  
Of ghost trains  
And sockets  
The speed slide  
And mammoth falls  
The birdcage  
And vertigo  
The fear  
Conquered by will  
The pleasure  
Begin again  
Gaze skyward  
And thrill

*14/10/2005*

570. YES AND NO

For every yes  
There is a no  
Lurking  
In it smiling  
Sanctuary  
Crypt-tight  
With denial

For every knowing  
A dead  
Forgiving  
A lie  
Bent straight  
By that  
Crippling  
Yes

*14/10/2005*

571. GULAG

The bad  
Democracy  
Stupefies mind  
Its gulags  
Thrive  
Cells  
Imprison  
Brain

The good  
Democracy  
Guards will  
Limp sentries  
Sleep  
Mass  
Tyrants  
Tame

*15/10/2005*

572. PEACE PRICE

Fellow sufferers  
Rejoice!  
Crisp buoyancy  
Buried  
And realism  
Takes the spade

It is strenuous  
Holy  
The looming  
Gash, dash  
Inward – (in wood)  
Well worth  
A peace  
Price

*15/10/2005*

573. KARMA

Steady  
Karmic rain  
A prison  
No escape  
Sodden bird  
A meal  
Final  
Withdraw  
Refuse  
To take

*16/10/2005*

574. BIPED

Biped  
Astonished by  
The tango stairs  
The little licks  
Of night  
That chaotic  
Twin of twos  
Molested  
By one  
Marauding sun  
One  
Lascivious moon

16/10/2005

575. SHOE THAT FIT

You seem such  
A perfect fit  
Woman with the  
Catastrophe  
Feet  
It is eerily odd  
As the wise one  
(Himself seldom shod)  
Says  
You're scaring me dad

My sandal broke  
A nervous hour  
After we spoke  
I wandered  
Barefoot  
And lovely  
Flecked rain  
Patterned  
My toes  
Showing me  
How it must be  
Inevitably  
Eventually

20/10/2005

576. PROOF

With one proof  
He would be  
An evangelist  
But seeking it  
Disqualifies him  
And fervor tosses  
Finding its quench  
In less forgiving  
Landscapes

*22/10/2005*

577. TEMPTATION

To be sure of  
Such religious  
Fidelity  
Is calming  
Not experience  
The dim lit  
Passage  
Now unlocked  
Leads to a  
Blaze of mirrors  
Each flaming exit  
Multiplied  
Ominously  
Offering up  
Temptation  
With each sweet  
Damning spark

*22/10/2005*

578. MONUMENT

To make the little  
Big  
That is what  
This is  
You are not  
To know  
What small thing  
Led to this  
Monument  
And if it  
Rings for you  
Then miracle  
Lets call it  
A slight join  
Between us

*22/10/2005*

579. NOTHINGS

Sweet			nothings
Sweet chocolate	Swiss or Belgian		nothings
Sweet avocado	on	cheese	nothings
Sweet raspberry		jam	nothings
Sweet mango		summer	nothings
Sweet egg	and	feta	nothings
Sweet nightcap		cognac	nothings
Sweet			nothings

*5/11/2005*

580. BUTTERFLY

A singular  
Butterfly  
Admiring its shape  
Its form – Ulysses  
Jet-like  
Angular, iridescent  
Blue  
Perched for days  
Unmoved  
On a pot plant  
Absurd beauty  
The sublime perfection  
Of artless nature  
Get closer  
Slow creep  
Forward  
Hands and knees  
Camouflage  
Shit!  
It's a sticker

*13/11/2005*



581. JUBILEE

Despite  
Carnage made lives  
They survive  
Bequeathing models  
They despise

The poor  
Bruised fruit  
Wear their  
Blemishes like  
Ensigns  
Weakly fluttering  
A simple breeze  
Up a singular pole

Torn and aging  
Tattered from raging  
Alone, miserable  
Saluting  
The diamond jubilee  
With numb wonder  
And closet  
Envy

*13/11/2005*

582. AWED

He watched  
In awe  
A silver lining  
Slide across  
A salmon sky  
Not just metaphor  
A thousand ton  
Of water  
Drift  
Like some inevitable  
Disaster  
An inverted sea  
Relishing  
Its self-made  
Mystery  
As it literally  
Mocked  
Our  
Symbolic word  
Gravity

*13/11/2005*

583. MEMBRANE

The middle  
Thin thread  
Snapped  
With membrane  
Throb  
Pressure within  
Pressure without  
Infection  
He suspects  
As the six  
Lines  
From brain  
To lips  
Become five

*28/11/2005*

584. WORRY

He dreams  
The impossible  
And the brittle  
Relationship  
All of them  
Shatter  
Shock is  
Visceral  
Like the shoulder  
Coming out  
He awakes  
The probable  
And is grateful  
For the worry  
Cigarette  
Brings

*10/12/2005*

585. BARBS BENT

The paltry  
Demonstrations  
So ludicrous  
Transparent  
Fall like  
Laughable arrows  
Wet  
With their own  
Intent  
Badly made  
Hopelessly  
Out of range  
Apparent purpose  
To the very  
Opposite barbs  
Bent

*10/12/2005*

586. STRAIGHT

The mediocre  
Manipulate  
A fool's greatness  
Can't grasp  
Straight

*10/12/2005*

587. COMIC

He is a comic genius  
And a magician  
The seven  
Stunts six  
If we find  
The day of rest  
Singularly unamusing  
Then leave us  
Dying laughing

*23/12/2005*

588. DISCIPLES

All disciples  
Envy Jesus  
Secretly  
Want to be  
Him  
Minus the suffering  
Of course  
They smile  
While washing  
His feet  
Second guessing  
The lessons  
Following his  
Patient steps  
Each one saying  
(Green under breath)  
'I knew that already'  
His only equal  
The betrayer  
Knows love  
And finds it  
Through risk

*24/12/2005*

589. FOLDING

A certain  
Smugness  
Folding on itself  
The young serene  
The smile  
Under toxic  
Spleen

Here  
Of all places!  
Always a shock  
Lives are slaughtered  
For daring  
To mock

The wish  
Is broken  
Never really straight  
Dangerous innocence  
Now seals  
Our perpetual  
Crooked fate

*24/12/2005*

590. GOD'S WILL

It is God's will  
And inertia  
Spies a  
Victory  
If creator  
Has will  
Then so too  
Prince of angels  
Between the tussle  
Devine  
Lay the multitudes  
Benign  
Sparkling warriors  
Of choice  
Each a flicker  
Dulled  
By destiny

*6/1/2006*

591. CRYSTAL BALL

The crystal ball  
Is with him  
Clarity  
Blinds him  
Its dirt  
Just won't be  
Rubbed out  
Its hard weight  
Burdens  
Each doubt

*7/1/2006*

592. MUSICIAN SONG

He is musician  
Drawn to the  
Traditional duet  
The phrasing  
All wrong

The surface gleams  
No effort perceived  
A technique  
Implacable and  
Strong

Underneath  
The expected flesh  
Is missing  
A curious void  
Not glorious  
Song

*21/1/2006*

593. GECKO

The gecko  
Snatches and devours  
I draw breath  
Quickly  
There is a  
Whole metaphor  
Right there  
Of terror  
In my placid  
Construct  
The veneer  
Of harmony  
And beauty  
Being restored  
The reptile  
Waits, still  
Draws breath  
Still  
Under the warm  
Light of  
Energy-saver  
Globe

22/1/2006

594. LUNATIC

The lunatic moment  
A howling  
Adoration  
Of the moon

No words  
They are gone  
Along with other  
Artifice and conceits  
You become  
Voracious, violent  
Grinding, vicious  
I become  
Sullen, mean  
Withdrawn, denying

Then Apollo's  
Glinting ray  
The traded smiles  
Stubble rash  
And scratches  
Talk of rain  
The inane  
Same  
Sane

*22/1/2006*

595. SALIVA

Spit  
Mostly water  
Spit in  
My mouth  
A kiss  
Less  
The illusion  
Of connection

*22/1/2006*



596. PLUM

I had a big  
Plum tree  
Growing up  
At Christmas  
It was full of  
Boisterous baubles  
And slimy slugs  
We ate both  
My friend  
And I  
With relish

The house  
Where flourished  
So many  
Fabulous  
Feats  
Is gone  
But the  
Tree  
Still stands  
With marvels  
And ghosts  
Gobbling  
Gorgeous gifts  
Without  
A scratch

*22/1/2006*

597. ROTE

In this  
Slow torture  
He slides  
Towards  
Slipping  
Into rote  
Where  
No sentence  
Surrenders  
No body  
Responds

*30/1/2006*

598. UNSAID TRUTH

The silly words  
That adorn  
The drudgery  
Of love  
Hang like  
Abandoned  
Cobwebs  
From picture frame  
Kitsch  
Growing  
In their  
Uselessness  
Jangling  
Their nervous  
Threads  
Spidery  
Predators  
Sucking  
The fluid  
Beauty  
The truth  
Unsaid

4/2/2006

599. TEENAGE

The courage  
Accord  
Could not  
Be kept  
Stability  
On the hand  
Danger  
In the webbing

On his own  
Fantasy  
Allayed the  
Boredom  
(Almost)  
But writing  
That language  
Onto another's  
Flesh  
Mostly gets  
Caught  
Between the  
Ludicrous  
And outrage  
Humiliation  
And the  
Teenage

4/2/2006