

5 Selected poems of 2021 for sixfold

1.

Only if you lie very still

Only if you lie very still,
Breathe calmly in the dark
Will you become aware
Of motes of gold,
Moving in the shadows.
And only if you will,
You can dance with them
In a flaming rapture
With the fire torching
Your mouth, scorching
Your tongue. A voice
Speaks a command,
Incomplete. A longing
From the dark side
Of the moon pulls
Your voice to sing
To an unknown tune.

2.

Let there be

Let there be
Star-filled galaxies,
Oceans filled with
Plankton lessons
Bubbling up
From the deep,
Dark sea.
Or more wanton;
Four-leaved clovers
A field-full for luck.
Dappled light,
Flowers, flight,
Known and unknown
Faces, another life.
Also terrors
Best forgotten,
Fangs and fur,
Tearing teeth,
While you sleep
In a skin on skin
Embrace, tangle of
Limbs. All will
Be clear. Be careful
What you take.
It comes with you
When you awake.

3.

Still stiff with morning cold

Still stiff with morning cold,
The hinge of the season
Is about to creak open
To let in spring.
Green lances from bulbs
Are tipped with
Flaming daffodils.
The wind changes direction.
Through the door a scene
Of blues mixed into blue
And air so clear, that soon
We will listen to every breath
And everything will sing.

4.

One day

One day you or I
Will wake and reach
For what was ours
And touch emptiness.
A landscape between us,
As familiar as our face
Will have only
A vaulted grey sky,
Hours of lead
Times of snow.
Grief will enter
Eye and nose
Sharp as mace
Or the memory
Of a warm embrace

5.

I know it is only temporary

I know it is only temporary,
Like taste dissolving
With the ripe fruit
On our tongue,
Like the colours
Of dawn or sunset
Like the smell,
The soft-shaped curves,
Voice, breath and shudder
Of us wrapped and entangled
In this warm bubble,

But the happiness, the joy,
Lingers, lingers.....