

Ode to the Sea

They push across your waters
Yet it's you who pulls them in
I may at times stray from you,
But you call to me again
They borrow from your riches
Yet it's you who steals their souls
I see fury in your darkest depths,
Contentment in your shoals
They try to tame your crests and peaks
You never will be caged
My tomb may be yours one day
As for you, you've never aged
They worship your great beauty
Yet you seek no song or praise
I'll forever be your child
And in awe for all my days
For your power is unrivaled
Wisdom strewn across your face
And as long as I have breath in me
I'll rest in your embrace.

Your Absence I Can't Learn

I expect to see you standing there
'Round every bend I turn
Because you're here, but yet you're there
Your absence I can't learn
My lips still numb from our last kiss
Still warm from your embrace
Betray my sight, for every night
I'm lost within this place
I fear to do such simple things
For as the time as passed
To sleep, to walk, to play, to laugh
We did together, last
I strain to see you past each door
And seek to catch your scent
My ears deceive, for mind's reprieve
Have all my senses spent
The colors that you brought to life
Begin to dim and grey
And as they fade, the cold and rain
Have chased the sun away
Each melody flies past my thoughts
And rests within my heart
Each note, an echo of our love
Since we have been apart
The night drags on and fails to sleep
Without you by my side
The glittered sky has lost its shine
As even dreams now hide
I pray each morning as I wake
To rise within your light
Until the dawn that brings you home
I'll wait within this night.

That Girl

Where is she?

That girl,

the one with the smile that reels them in,
the one who makes you want to start again

That girl,

the one who had plans,
and dreams,
the one who's much stronger than she seems

The girl who seemed to rise above

the messiness of life,
the chaos of love,
the hurt in your heart,
the lists in your mind,
the world that's gone sour and considerably less kind

You know her, don't you,

That girl of the sea?

Who rescued the drowning and the broken like me

Who only had sweet words,

sweet thoughts,
sweet actions,
sweet hopes,
a sweet heart?

Who could make you feel whole when the world fell apart

Where is she?

That girl who loved painting

Who sang and played

Who held dearly to poems and the love she had made

Who prayed for you

laughed with you,
cried by you,
sat near you,
lived in you

If you know her, don't lose her

Once you find her, you'll see

For that girl was once home here

And that girl once was me.

For Your Service

Endlessly waiting
Anticipating
Hoping
And wishing
While the outside world's fading
Timing
And counting
Breath holding
And thinking
Dreams that keep floating
While patience is sinking
Tapping
Teeth grinding
Still I'm watching the clock
There's no me left for finding
Torn the key from the lock
Sighing
Time dying
Fists clenching
I'm paused
So frozen
I've chosen
This life we have caused
We lead
Yet we follow
We fight
But for peace
We kill one another
For the fire to cease
It's silly
So backwards
Quite futile
Ironic
That we should be loyal
And each war iconic
It's business
Just money
Some paychecks
Some votes
Involved in these train wrecks
Lies shoved down our throats
Our brothers
Dear sisters
My most sympathy

This country
Has fostered
The martyr in me
Bleeding
Leading
Feeding
Alone
Advancing
Quite far from
The love they had known
I'm in this
You're in this
We're one and the same
A soldier
A sailor
A number
No name
A dark place
Inside us
That quiets the fears
That stifles the heart
And conceals the tears
No camouflage out there
Can hide my distaste
The bitterness left by
The money we waste
Spending
And marching
And sailing the course
All for the king's business
To justify force
Tensing
Flexing
Muscles grow weary
Each leader
Consuming
To test the next theory
Pushing
Deploying
Counting
The lost
Returning
To soil
The ultimate cost
Testing
Still wrenching

The healthy
To broken
Swallowing distrust
Things best left unspoken
What is the end game
What mission
What price
Can equate the terror
To our sacrifice
Endlessly waiting
Anticipating
Hoping
And watching
As decency's fading
Discarding
Destroying
Applying
Denying
Those who served bravely
Are constantly trying
Dodging disdain
And seeking assistance
Bridging the gap
Between death and existence
Regrettably
Terribly
Wasted youth taken
For something
For nothing
Forgotten
Forsaken
Scraping
And taking
Our children unknowing
Inheriting debts
From the seeds we are sowing
Opening borders
Judge those who don't
To some who would earn it
And many who won't
Feeding
Supplying
Encouraging
And giving
To outsiders taking
As we struggle living

Endlessly waiting
Lacking
Learning
Putting out foreign fires
While our own homes are burning.

The Space Between

At either end, two flames ignite
Unlike you've ever seen
A shadow, though, hangs heavily
Within the space between
An unknown void to terrify,
To judge our every sin
Reminder of life's vast expanse
Of where we once had been
Should one fire cease to burn
Extinguished in despair
The other would collapse, in turn
Without its mirrored pair
But if ever should they meet
A bursting, brilliant glow
Emanates from chaos sweet
In love's celestial show
For now, they flicker plaintively
Each longing for the other
And honestly, it's plain to see
They spin towards one another
Sometimes the distance fades away
That gap we strive to close
Through circumstance, the price we pay
This is the life we chose
By day or night, we cannot hide
From light or dark we've seen
One day those stars will soon collide
Till there's no space between.