

# House on Fire

## Assemblage 23

Sifting through the ashes  
With unsteady hands  
Searching for the remnants  
Of a broken man

A history of hollow lives  
And low ideals  
A backlog of wrongdoing  
We never conceal

I rise to my feet  
And walk away from the dross  
Towards the doorway  
Of our mutual and harrowing loss

The only way I know  
To shake myself of this curse  
Is to bring myself to something  
That is measurably worse

I sought refuge in a house on fire  
I took shelter in a wall of flame  
I built a prison in my own subconscious  
There's nothing else left  
Nothing else left to blame.

Emerging from the wreckage  
Of a life that once was  
Confounded by the damage  
My own psyche does

I bear the scars  
Of an insufferable will  
And the tyrannical reign  
it threatens to instill

Some seek control  
By grabbing hold of their lives  
In a futile attempt  
To help themselves survive

I dig myself  
Into a much deeper hole  
Running from a fate  
That I can never control

I woke up  
In a column of ash  
While the world came down  
In a horrible crash

I was naive  
For ever wanting this much  
Using self-deception  
As my only crutch

Footsteps diverge

From the path they once walked  
Words are eclipsed  
By the language they talked

Actions betrayed  
By promises broken  
Flames consume intentions  
Best left unspoken