

# The Ribs Of A Broken Umbrella

Bell X1

She was only just a girl in a picture  
but he thought if I could only make her smile  
when she'd be mine  
He'd folded it, re-folded it so many times,  
He'd already lost some of her to the creases  
precious pieces  
He wondered how close he's ever been to her  
in this ebb and flow of the distance between us  
maybe she got the same bus  
and he left a trail of string wherever he went  
When he was sleepin', he tied it to his toe  
if she crossed it, then he'd know

But he knew  
that all was unravelling  
and he was bare  
stripped of his skin  
like the ribs of a broken umbrella  
sticking out of a bin

He'd pull his collar up against the wind,  
Against those who said that trying was the first step to failing  
Oh he was railing  
and filled with newfound purpose and pride,  
He'd make something out of this heady glow  
Now where would she go?

But what do I know?  
Cos all is unravelling  
and he was bare  
stripped of his skin  
like the ribs of a broken umbrella  
sticking out of a bin

But he knew how to fix it, dear Liza, dear Liza  
with time's great elixir, dear Liza, dear Liza

She was only just a girl in a picture,  
But he thought if I could only make her smile  
then she'd be mine  
Oh the thought of being faced with her  
gave him the fear and sometimes in the morning a tent  
Oh Lord give him strength

Cos he knew  
that all was unravelling  
and he was bare  
stripped of his skin  
Like the ribs of a broken umbrella  
sticking out of the bin