

# The Ministry of Defence

PJ Harvey

This is the Ministry  
Of Defence  
Stairs and walls are  
all that's left

Mortar holes let  
through the air  
Kids do the same thing  
everywhere

They've sprayed graffiti  
In arabic  
And balanced sticks  
In human shit

This is the ministry  
of remains  
Fizzy drinks cans  
and magazines

Broken glass  
A white jawbone  
Syringes, razors  
A plastic spoon

Human hair  
A kitchen knief  
And a ghost of a girl  
Who runs and hides  
Scratched in the wall in  
Biro pen  
This is how the  
world will end

There's the bus depot  
To the right  
Levelled like  
A building site

Those are the children's  
cries from the dark  
These are the words  
written under the arch  
Scratched in the wall  
in biro pen  
This is how the  
world will end.