

- statistic, not personal
 - collateral damage
 - 1979
 - anonymity → removed
 - nameless victims of violence
 - about a real man that is representative of many
 - anonymity allows for universality

→ an image of this man
 * portrait

A He would drink by himself
 B And raise a weathered thumb
 A Towards the high shelf,
 B Calling another rum
 C And blackcurrant, without
 d Having to raise his voice,
 c Or order a quick stout
 d By a lifting of the eyes
 And a discreet dumb-show mime
 Of pulling off the top;
 At closing time would go
 In waders and peaked cap → fisherman clothing
 Into the showery dark,
 A dole-kept breadwinner kenning
 But a natural for work.
 I loved his whole manner,
Sure-footed but too sly,
 His deadpan sidling tact,
 His fisherman's quick eye
 And turned, observant back. * oxymoronic

* political but still personal

contextual SES of Catholics

Incomprehensible
 To him, my other life. → poet
 Sometimes, on his high stool,
 Too busy with his knife
 At a tobacco plug
 And not meeting my eye,
 In the pause after a slug
 He mentioned poetry.
 We would be on our own
 And, always politic
 And shy of condescension,
 I would manage by some trick
 To switch the talk to eels → why was he tentative about his art?
 Or lore of the horse and cart
 Or the Provisionals. → rural customs, awe

* enjambment
 → end rhyme . it isn't perfect, exploring sound

But my tentative art
 His turned back watches too:
 He was blown to bits HARSH
Out drinking in a curfew Home Rule law
Others obeyed, three nights → enforced curfew to stop IRA
 After they shot dead
 The thirteen men in Derry.
 PARAS THIRTEEN, the walls said. → personification
 BOGSIDE NIL. That Wednesday
 Everybody held → you hold tension
 Their breath and trembled.
 * threat of backlash

reference to paramilitary in Nth in Ireland

repetition of that image
 colloquial shocking
 * VIOLENT IMAGE
 paramilitary
 keeping score
 Catholic space

* Bloody Sunday
 British soldiers shot 13 civil rights protesters

It was a day of cold
 Raw silence, windblown weather, mood
Surplice and soutane Catholic priest garments
Rained-on, flower-laden KENNING
Coffin after coffin
 unending-coffin sound - never ending

* volume