

* earthy, elemental imagery

→ part coming into the present

III At the Water's Edge

Protest march for Sunday massacre

On Devenish I heard a snipe gun
And the keeper's recital of elegies → death
Under the tower. Carved monastic heads
Were crumbling like bread on water. simile
disintegrates easily

ancient christian monastic islands in Ireland

impressionistic

On Boa the god-eyed, sex-mouthed stone
Socketed between graves, two-faced, trepanned,
Answered my silence with silence. drill into skull to relieve pressure
A stoup for rain water. Anathema. → holder of holy water

From a cold hearthstone on Horse Island
I watched the sky beyond the open chimney
And listened to the thick rotations disturbing of the silence
Of an army helicopter patrolling. suggest war + conflict

→ Curse

→ juxtaposition of this with religious site

back to place

A hammer and a cracked jug full of cobwebs
Lay on the window-sill. Everything in me
Wanted to bow down, to offer up,
To go barefoot, foetal and penitential, → ritual actions

↳ birth

→ overwhelmed by wanting to do it all

hopeful tone

And pray at the water's edge.
How we crept before we walked! I remembered
The helicopter shadowing our march at Newry,
The scared, irrevocable steps. → march

↳ unchangeable Ireland on border

we are still in the crawling stage (Troubles), lets develop

→ realisation, revelation

* the importance of Ritual

→ linking to the march

* imagery can be tied across stanzas.

Political

political + personal ideas

place
home
rituals
allusion
change