

Spare Parts

Poetry by Christopher Hester

Version 1.4
5th February 2011



The poems are mostly presented in chronological order.
There are more poems I have written to add to this collection.

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Come The Mega
5th February 2012

Come the mega
Bright lights affirming
Hot sounds confirming
The magic of music

Magnificent majesty
Courting desire
Complex simplicity
The beat is no liar

Solid sound does chase the heart
Solid ground where we dance to art
Moving through time and space
In a proud display of grace

The mind progression
Sweet delivery
Harmonic intoxication
Driving the soul
Future forward
Ever present
Past denial
Evidently
A curiosity
Beyond our belief
In this realm of life
What is surely the most
Incredible muse
God's gift of sound
To lift us higher
Than we ever thought possible
Rock and roll!
Enjoy it
Feel it
Move to it
Something special
Beyond definition
Beyond words

Ringin' in our ears
For all to hear
For the deaf to feel
The sonic vibrations
That go to the heart
Ancient rhythms
Modern technology
A synthesis of history
Rockin' the ages
Eternally
For young and old
The spirit of fire
Downloadable always
Through copper wires
And on shiny discs
That reflect rainbows
In the sun
Such fun
And the night has only just begun.

Baa Baa Bradford

24th January 2012

Baa baa Bradford,
Have you any shops?
Yes sir, yes sir,
Though not a lot.

There's the charity shops
And the pound shops too.
Oh, and the betting shops
And takeaways for food.

Then there's the shops where
You sell unwanted goods.
Plus there's the pubs
And the coffee shops are good.

But no big departments,
Like BHS.
Neither a Debenhams,
Or Pizza Express.

Though there's a Marks's
And Primark at least.
But I'm off to shop
In Halifax and Leeds.

Wet Water High

3rd December 2011

New rain on old leaves

Like drops of blood

In poppy fields.

Fresh rain on tired leaves

The rain bears memories of the sea

And of the sky.

Wet water high.

Here Come The Bin Men

11th October 2011

Here come the bin men

The tin men

The sin men

The gin men

Here come the thin men

The din men

The kin men

The in men.

Spiders

18th September 2011

In the night the spiders come.
They crawl across the naked floor.
I hear them shuffling and scuffling.
Darkness hides them from discovery.
But I know they are there.
I am scared.
I fear them crawling onto my bed.
I fear them crawling over my head.
I fear them biting into my skin.
I fear them nesting inside my ears.
I cannot sleep.
I dare not put the light on.
I might see them.
Waiting for me.
Coming for me.
Hungrily.
With their long furry legs.
With their multiple eyes.
With no place I can hide.
They will be at the door.
They will be on the floor.
They will be on the ceiling.
There will be no escape.
I will be eaten alive.

Kind-hearted Failure

22nd August 2011

Kind-hearted failure

Looking to the internet to save you

But that alone won't do

You clearly haven't got a clue

Meanwhile time is ticking away

Into another meandering day

You've clearly lost your way

Can't you find something worth saying to say?

Growing Old

15th June 2010

Growing old
Growing cold
Doubts and fears
Now unfold.

Time erodes
Like candlewax
The light of life
Will one day pass.

Growing old
Takes its toll
Once born to run
You walk or crawl.

Every task
Takes twice as long,
Is twice as hard -
Now move along.

Growing old
The days grow shorter
Spend them wisely
With son or daughter.

Do take your time
You've got all day
But hurry up,
You're in my way!

Sea Of Friends

20th April 2010

Inspired by Flickr

among a sea of friends i swim
not knowing
where i am going
not knowing
what i am looking for
but i know
i will know
when i find it

i keep searching
and surfing

and though i am
among millions
i am alone

The Dark Envelope Of Night

25th February 2010

The dark envelope of night
Creeps over the day
Extinguishing light
As it makes its way
Over the land and sea
Leaving no stone unturned
Hiding the clouds away
As darkness takes its rightful turn.

Paper Light

25th February 2010

We are the makers of paper light
Through circular eyes of glass
Capturing slices of time
We turn life into art.

She's The Weather

7th January 2010

She's the weather
Raining down
Keeping the flowers and plants alive

She's the weather
Shining down
Keeping us warm and making us thrive

She's the weather
Blowing around
Making sure trees don't have too many leaves

She's the weather
Snowing on down
Covering houses and gardens with ease.

Heart Like A Butterfly

27th December 2009

Is your heart like a butterfly?
Can it fly away?
Do you dream of love?
Each and every day?

Is your heart like a rose?
Will it blossom one day?
In the most beautiful way?
Or wither and fade away?

Do you long to fly?
Among the stars at night
In the silent sky
Kissed with starry light

Do you sing yourself to sleep?
Or keep on counting sheep
As your mind drifts deep
Into a dark blue sea of dreams.

Into The Rainy Night

21st November 2009

Into the rainy night they go
Umbrellas held high
While the rain dances down

Lights yellow and gold
Orange and crimson
Light up the night
While the moon watches on

Could the figures be lonely
Or lost in love?
Or looking for something
That's never found.

The Anticipation Of Precipitation

28th March 2009

I'm sitting here looking out my window again
With the anticipation of precipitation.
When the sun has hidden its golden face
It's time to witness the relentless rain.

The Rat

2009?

Watch the rat in an endless maze

His face so long -

He's seen better days

Deadbeat

Downbeat

Doesn't know which way to turn

While spiders crawl the walls

Looking for souls to eat

As the dusty sun casts cold shadows

Through broken glass

The shopkeeper and the tailor

Take bets on whether the rat will escape

Or not

The delicate silence is broken by bawling babies

Calling for their mothers' milk

But just when the rat thinks he's found the way out

He's back at the start of the maze

Amazed and confused

He's used to it now.

Daddy Was A Dalek

2009?

Daddy was a dalek
Fightin' galactic wars
But The Doctor would always stop
His evil cause

So the Earth is safe again
From my daddy's plans
Won't somebody tell me
Who is this Doctor man?

Love On Fire

2nd December 2008

I want to look inside your heart
Is there any love for me in there?
Is this the start of an affair?
Or should I even care?

You are just so beautiful
You mean so much to me
But we're a million miles apart
Separated by the sea.

I wish we could dance naked in your room
Play fight like children chasing out the gloom
Then kiss like adults, forging love on fire
Exploring every inch of our desire.

Now let me lay you down upon the bed
Caress you from your toes up to your head

You deserve to be loved
With limitless passion
Long into the night
Your eyes shining bright
Your smile alight.

Let our bodies join together
Licking and loving forever
Until we lie exhausted there
Before the sun comes up and lights the highlights of your hair.

Dance Through Your Heart

28th November 2008

I want to dance through your heart
Turning the language of love into art
I want to smother you with kiss after kiss
In the lowlight of the early evening bliss
When the sun has gone to bed
And the moon lights up your sleepy head
Touching souls into the night
Love lifting us high like a kite
Into an endless sky of velvet night
Blessed with a million brilliant stars alight.

When I Was Young

25th June 2008

When I was young...

I was good-looking

I was healthy

I was happy

I could sleep easily

I didn't have to get up early every day

When I got up I wasn't tired or exhausted

I didn't have to stay in one place at a desk for hours

I didn't have to stare at a computer screen for hours

If I got bored doing something I could stop

If I got too tired I could rest

If I wanted I could do nothing at all

Summer lasted for weeks of hot sun

There were no cold days in summer

It never snowed in spring

Winter might bring heavy snow and was always cold

It was never like summer in winter

I didn't overly worry about things

My skin was good

My eyes didn't water

My nose didn't run

My hair was shiny not greasy

I never worried about what people thought of me or what I looked like

Days were long and fun

I had lots of friends

I had a good house

I never had to think about neighbours

Or house repairs

Or paying electricity bills

Or buying food other than sweets

I didn't have to buy my own clothes

Or anything I needed like a television

I enjoyed playing with toys

I enjoyed drawing a lot
I used to type poems and stories on a typewriter
There was no computer

I could run and not feel worn out
I could walk for miles and not feel worn out
I never had to worry about being too tired to get up for work the next day
There was no work!

I didn't have to worry about money
I didn't have to worry about the news
I didn't have to worry about politics, society, economics and all those adult concerns
I didn't have to wear sunglasses
I didn't long for so many things
I was not a materialist nor a collector

The future was bound to be good as I wouldn't let it be bad, would I?
But then I never knew about things like terrorism, dictators, wars, famines and diseases
I didn't worry about what happened abroad
I wrongly thought everyone would feel the same as me
That no-one would ever stoop to do evil acts
That there was a clear division between good and bad
And that everyone wanted only the good things
How wrong I was
The heart of man is dark indeed
Temptation leads to many vices
Drugs, alcohol, sex, crime, guns - I was unaware of these things
Girls liked me
But I knew nothing about them
I was lost in a dreamworld

I didn't worry if it was raining outside or not
I didn't worry if it was sunny outside or not
I didn't worry about storms or floods or snow
I didn't have to worry about travelling to work every day
I didn't have to worry about wages or pensions or a career

There was no social obsession with celebrities, game shows or reality TV
The world seemed a better place but it probably wasn't
They say a little learning is a dangerous thing

Then a lot must be deadly
You learn about so many terrible things as you grow old
People who keep their children in dark cellars
People who attack or kill others for pleasure
Radiation, pollution, declining resources,
Oil prices, who's the President, who's slept with who
None of it crosses your mind when you're young

Enjoy your youth while it lasts
We all grow old someday
And funny how we can't wait to get older when we're young
But when we're older we'd love to be young again

The down side of being young is not being in control
Your parents do everything for you
If you want something like a new toy, they have to buy it for you
If they can't afford it, you feel like crying as you want it so badly
And you have to eat when they eat
Eat what they eat
At the dinner table
Same time every evening
And you can't stay up late
Or go out when or where you please
But wasn't life so much better then?
Nothing big to worry about
And so much free time to dream

Maybe true happiness comes by combining the best of both worlds
Being free to play and experiment
Not bound by the tiresome hours of work
But having enough money to get by
And relationships with people you love
I guess only the rich can know of such freedoms
The rest of us plod on as best we can
Another week
Another month
Another year
Always working
Always tired
Always so much to worry about
Sigh.

Green Summer High

30th October 2007

Darkness prevails
But loveness will conquer
I'm riding the bullet train straight to your heart
I'll meet you in Cinnamon Park
In your lavender raincoat way after dark
We will not need a reason why
Your smile is brighter than the sun
In its velvet sky.

Can you see the rose petals
Falling from the trees?
I thought they were leaves
Lost in a delicate breeze.

Come with me for a while
I need to see you smile again
The rain's been falling in your heart for too long now
Let me whisper incantations
That will drive it away
Revealing sunnier days
Cloudless like Seattle
On that wintery day.

Remember how we laughed like kids?
Taking photographs and making love
Until the morning sun
Came filtering through the bedroom
Like a sign of hope
Of wonderful dreams yet to be dreamt
Future starlight
Yet to be shone
Upon our naked hearts.

You were the gentle queen who ruled my world
That fine summer
Drinking wine under poplar trees
With roseberry leaves
While time melted slowly away

Each day everlasting
Pure blue and gold, never grey, never old.

How we kissed like each kiss was the last ever kiss of our lives
That after that we could only die.

Green summer high
Just you and I
Together as one
Under the auburn sun.

Memory fades
But love never jades
When it's strong and pure
Like the beauty you are.

Silvery angel with a firey tongue
Burning holes in my heart
With your lover's gun
No hiding place
Nowhere to rest
I give in every time
To your sweetest arrest.

Today your eyes are so beautiful
Like mirrors to heaven
Full of colours unseen
In a waking dream.

You are magical and special
Princess of my life
Casting unbreakable spells
Of love and lust, melting ice
Catching my dreams
And turning them real
How do you do that?
So effortlessly it feels.

When we wake up in the morning
Yawning, not drowning
Waking, not sleeping
You look lovelier every day

I hope it will always be that way.
For your beauty of body and mind
I give you an A.

There can be no-one more attractive to me than you are right now,
In the delicate haze of your perfumed room.

Walls

30th October 2007

Inspired by this photo on Flickr:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/nicebiscuit/416412605/>

Walls made of cork

Lit by honey light

I don't fear the darkness

That lives around the corner

At least not tonight.

Love Poem

16th March 2007

I want to paint your glorious body red,
With petals as you lay across my bed.
I want to steal the lipstick from your lips,
With just one everlasting firey kiss.

I'd love to run my fingers through your hair,
Think of you even when you are not there.
I'll kiss you slowly from your head to feet,
Caress you under sleepy satin sheets.

I'll make you drunk on nothing more than love,
I'll keep you going when you've had enough.
Be gentle as the softest feather's touch,
Or wilder, as the stormy sea is rough.

I long to hold you close and keep you warm,
Share every minute of your endless charm.
Ensure that you are happy every day,
To please you pleases me in every way.

Black Man White Man

20th July 2006

Black man

Turn over your hand

You are like a white man

With a tan.

White man

Look at your past

If you go back far

You'll find you are from Africa.

Overlord

30th June 2006

Come silver shadow,
Ease this restless art.
Come whispering invention,
Sieve this withered heart.

Come metallic future,
Save this mortal race.
Come infinite achievement,
Crave this fragile face.

Come solid mover,
Shake this overload.
Come delicate profusion,
Take this human mould.

Come newfound idol,
Gorge majestic fame.
Come exhaustive creation,
Forge this brittle frame.

Come ceaseless dreamer,
Spear this tireless dream.
Come eternal teacher,
Steer this living stream.

Come synthetic saviour,
Bless this ragged place.
Come dynamic seer,
Fashion purest grace.

Come electric healer,
Charge this atmosphere.
Come protective leader,
Harbour us from fear.

Confirm the beauty of your mind.
Affirm the guidance of your kind.
Relieve us from the gun and sword.
You are the robot overlord.

Silence

29th June 2006

Silence throbbing like a distant bell.
Countless people on the way to hell.
Listen closely and you'll understand.
Nothing's louder than an empty hand.

Children

29th June 2006

Children come in many guises
Some of them with adult faces
Older but not yet wiser
Like their bodies have changed places.

Playing music way too loud
Laughing like hyenas do
Following the teenage crowd
No respect for me and you.

Death (The Tears Of Time)

29th June 2006

The time has come
A time to die.
A time to live
Has passed me by.

So now it is
A time to cry.
Alas no time
To ponder why.

Rainville

7th April 2006

You don't need a weatherman when every day it rains.
Droplets always falling through the sky like dancing grains.

People walking round in hoods,
Robbers dealing stolen goods.

Bicycles on windy streets,
Children fumbling treasured sweets,
Booting footballs over ground,
To fall in bushes, never found.

Branches blooming, mossy walls,
Daffodils still growing tall,
It must be spring, though it feels cold,
The winter's long but won't grow old.

Sometimes a rainbow breaks the sky,
The sun emerging for a while,
Before dissolving under clouds,
That hang above the milling crowds.

If only we could fix the sun,
Up in the sky for everyone,
Umbrellas could be thrown away,
But no - we'd only miss the rain.

Bradford

Date unknown (2010?)

The sulphur and the soot
The flagstones underfoot
Where the horses used to ride
Now the traffic jams reside.

Where the children used to play
In the dusky alleyway
Ride the boys on shiny bikes
Sporting Adidas and Nikes.

Blue Moon Horizon

Date unknown ('00s?)

There's an ugliness to beauty
That it takes the naked eye to see
Love's fragility
Exposed behind closed windows
Where only the night can reach.

Safe in your arms
At least for a moment
The warmth of temptation delivered.

Close your eyes
You can see me better that way
Together apart
Now we're bound by the heart
Till the sex is over
And the art
Is leaving no trace
In the blue moon horizon.

Lovesong

Date unknown ('90s?)

The light near the fountain is beautifully bright
Where children are playing
And everything's right
I see you again
In your blue summer dress
Your hair is a mess
But I couldn't care less.
Come walk with me,
Talk with me,
Say how you feel.
There's nothing between us
But fresh air and steel.
White-feathered doves fly right over our heads
While we drink cappuccino
At a cafe instead
Of worrying too much
About London and friends
For our thoughts are together
An aromatic blend
Of love and surprises
Where before there were none.
Then we look just how far
We've both come now, as one
For we'll be that way always
From this day and on
Till the end of all time,
When the birds have all flown
And the mountains and valleys
All merge into one.
Then we'll remember life
Like the notes of a song
That you still can recall
Even though it has gone
But for now it's still playing
It is our sweet lovesong.

Desire

Date unknown ('90s?)

Desire's a hard animal to tame.

We met on the beach

It was lust at first sight.

She stood there erect

With her tidepool eyes

And I longed for her hair

So long and fair.

She took my hand

To her hotel room

Where we talked

To the sounds of native jazz

Long into the night.

A drop of white wine,

Or maybe two,

And we kissed again

By the light of the moon.

Her peach bikini

Slid swiftly to the floor

As my eyes fell onto

Her naked shore.

We closed and melted

Into one, moving slowly

In our sensual dance,

Before she fell on the sheets

Of her silken bed

And I fell on her

And on love we fed.

Her flesh was like fire,

Her body my desire.

She gripped me below and

Forced me to grow.

We rolled and explored,

Like children once more,

Till it felt like the heat

Would set fire to the sheets.

I entered her as hard I could,

As she cried out in ecstasy,

And as I let go all my thrust,
She buckled upwards fed on lust.
Our sweat became like a human sea
As we both let go and
Drowned happy.
I lie there quietly
Hearing her heartbeat
Hearing noises outside
In the street.
How long had I been there,
So lost in the sex?
Who cares, I thought,
And kissed her neck.
She lay her arms
Across my chest
And we laughed together,
Exhausted, pressed
To dampened sheets
Upon the bed
And we talked till dawn,
How we should wed.

Five years have passed,
Since that first night,
Now I'm alone
And she's out of sight.
As I sit at the table
Sulken and sad,
I think of the children
We never had.

Does Everything Want To Hurt Me?

Date unknown ('90s?)

The blinding sun
The tiring work
The struggling sleep
The frightening nightmares
The cursing pain
The late-again
The not-arrived
The never-will

The drenching rain
The hunger pains
The biting teeth
Of the barking dog
The broken glass
Under my aching feet
The stinging cut
From a broken cup

The angry mob
The vicious slob
The drunken fool
The over-cool
The stealing thief
The robbing cheat
The high-on-drugs
The faulty plug
The open wire
The leaking roof

The unfair cop
The brutal knock
The judge and jury
The details gory
The prison cell
The urine smell

The black of night
The sound of silence

The ice-cold draught
The ones who laughed
The failed dreams
The screams, the screams
The out-of-stock
The out-of-luck
The can't-afford-it
The lies and the shit
The poisonous pill
The lethal cocktail
The relationships
That never set sail

The headaches
The stomachaches
The backaches
The my-whole-body-aches

The days off sick
Too ill to eat
The bleeding wounds
The sweating heat

Does everything want to hurt me?
Or is it just me?
The falling tree
Disease
Freezing
Boiling
Damp
Wet
Shallow
Too deep
Too high
Too wide
Too long
Too low
Now nothing
Zero
Space
Emptiness
Complete

Bright light
Too bright
White
Now darkness
No sight
Black
Nothing
No sound
No smell
No feelings at all

Where am I?
Who am I?
Who have I been?
For I am not me anymore
I am nowhere
I am nothing
I am dead.

You're The Light

1st September 1998

You're like a butterfly; free and wild
A red-haired wild child
Delicate and strong
The sweetest of songs.

I'm so glad I met you
How we made it thru
I treasure your friendship
I'll never let that slip.

Will you show me the way ahead?
I've lost sight of the road myself
Restore my sense of fun
I know that you can.

My problems are so raw
I cannot take much more
I need a door.

Open my life to the colour of your dreams
All is grey and miserable here
But you are like the sun
Warming each day for me.

Help me help myself
I will care for you
I will do that anyway
It's the least I can do.

You don't know how much you mean to me
You're like a tree in a storm
That I can shelter beneath
Like a ray of hope
In a world I can't cope with.

I do not know you face to face
But I can see the grace
Inside your soul.

You bring out the best in me
And maybe something more
I didn't know I had in store
That is worth more
Than anything before.

You deserve a standing ovation
It's you I applaud
It's you I adore
I daren't say any more
For I know it's not right
I must face each day and night alone
Goodnight, angel.

Do you see the moon outside?
So bright thru the clouds?
It shines just like you
You're the light
In my life.

Ice

1998?

Forgotten balance...

What was that?

A crack appearing in the atmosphere

Something way too near

To ignore

I lose my grip

Slip

Down the mountainside

Sliding

Gliding

Riding

Faster

Everlasting

Until I stop.

A painful mixture of blood and ice

Then silence.

Everything And Nothing

4th June 1996

I'm everything and nothing
I'm everyone and no-one
I know so little and so much
So in tune, so out of touch.

Give me something
And I'll want more
Give me nothing
And I'll act poor.

When I have the time
There's nothing to do
When there is no time
Everything needs doing.

If I get high
Then you'll feel down
If I'm depressed
Then you're the clown.

I'm hungry when there is no food
I'm too full to eat when there is.

If I want something badly
It's already out of stock
If I can't quite afford it
It'll be the last one left
If I've no money spare
There'll be hundreds there to buy.

Ever feel you're driving down the fastlane of life the wrong way?
But you can't turn off
There is no exit
No way to turn round for miles.

Book the flight of your lifetime
And it's cancelled
(at the last minute).

Travel the greatest journey you've ever made
And the destination's closed.

Get to the bus stop
Five minutes after the bus left
The only bus for two hours.

Call someone who's number
You've saved for emergencies
Only to find they've changed it.

Try to write down the most important details of your life
And the only pen you've got runs out
(after the first letter of the first word).

Try to use your credit card
Just to stay alive
And you find you're just over the limit.

These are the days when you wish you'd stayed at home
Never boarded the plane
Never got the car out of the garage
Never go out of bed.

Canadian Lady

4th June 1996

You're so wonderfully cool
I'm just a fool
You've helped me so much
Please stay in touch
You're a godsend to me
You just might save me
From my insanity.

You make me laugh
The things you say
It's silly I know -
I shouldn't be in this deep
What can I say?

Maybe I need your smile
Maybe I don't
I'd have to see you
To find out
When can I see you
You're so far away
Can I wait another day
It's OK
I can wait as long as it takes
Just get yourself ready
You're an angel with time on her hands
Go make your plans.

One day you will come over here
I hope to see you then
My eternal friend.

Angel Fire

1994?

And I shall burn like angel fire
Sharper than needles
Into the night
And I shall move like mountains higher
Higher than the eye
Can ever see
For my name is Irreverence
Never irrelevance;
Sculptured deliverance;
From tempered oblivions.

Heart into matter
Like water into stone
And wine into waves
Of liquid bone
Eroding slowly over time
My soul,
Gone home.

Serpent's Heart

16th January 1993

Does the truth hurt more than lies?
Is that why we cry?
Do you need my help
Or are you just selfish?
Love has a serpent's heart sometimes -
When it bleeds you die laughing at yourself
Time after time,
But that's the irony of the crime.
Maybe it's too late to make it work
Now that you've gone
But it's not over for me yet,
Gonna love you till the day I die.
Well you can leave my life
But you can never leave my heart.

Here Comes The Night

Date unknown

Here comes the night
We try to fight it
With bright street lights
No good for the sleeper -
Do they wake up in the night
To see the walls alight
From a security light
That a cat set alight?

Here comes the night
There goes the day
Time to tell your loved one
How you feel today.
Some do it by a whisper
Some with a scream
I choose the quietest moment
To wake perchance to dream.

Here comes tomorrow
Do the children know
About this full world -
The lengths they'll have to go to grow.
Or do we walk in silence
Unawares - who cares -
About what we say
Talk gets in the way
Of emotions and feeling
Yet it's the key to both
Love is revealing.

Here comes the truth
To keep us awake
And here comes the doubt
To scare us and shake us
For here comes self-pity
Mixed up with ambition
And here come our lives
In a single dimension.

Take it or leave it
We can't get away
From ourselves that we hide
When the night takes the day.

Johnny Found A Johnny

Date unknown

Johnny found a johnny in the john
Wondered what it was so he put it on
Got a strange feeling that he couldn't explain
And ever since that day
He's never been the same.

Bluebird In The Apple Tree

Date unknown

Bluebird in the apple tree
A memory of you and me
Oh how we used to laugh and play
Before the day you went away.