

I COULD TELL YOU

I could tell you I love you
But how would you know what I mean?
I love blackbirds and steam engines, beer and guitars
And some of the places I've been.
So why not say how much I love you?
But it isn't as simple as that.
How much more do I love you than my favourite aunt –
How many times more than the cat?
More than the cat.

So what if I can't live without you:
There's lots that I can't live without,
Like oxygen, proteins and vitamin D,
But that's not what love is about.
I can't say that you mean the world to me,
The world's a peculiar place:
There are viruses, pitbulls, mosquitoes and slugs
And people I'd rather not face.
A peculiar place.

I dare not tell you I love you:
The words are too fragile to say.
All the poets and singers philanderers and fools
Have practically worn them away.
As I seek in your eyes for an answer,
And you look in mine for one too,
If I don't say I love you it's not that I don't,
It's just that you know that I do –
Oh, you know