## Blue Mornings

Caught in splintered light
blue ghost-trees outside
stretch across my fragmented mind.
Sleep deprived, jagged,
no words will comfort
or cross that unspoken line.
Nothing can reach me in these blue mornings,
or wake me from dreaming,
stifled, mute,
I am a whisper of myself,

longing for day.

### A Mind Less Tangled

No longer caged in despair

At times I feared that I would never repair

Yet hope remained...

Through the pain of tortuous thoughts, hope remained like the finest thread And now, no more wishes to be dead

No more forced smiles, no fear of interaction, paranoia gone No dread of the morning, no dread of the night Enjoying life again, living fully, appreciating what I have

Empathy for those now on the path I travelled

Dancing in the sunshine, smiling in the rain

Joy restored, contented, calm, accepting of self

Able to laugh, able to cry
Glad to have travelled that dark road
Forever thankful for the lessons learnt

Wiser, humbler for the journey made

A better person, bruised not broken, with a mind less tangled

## Aagh

Aagh There is colour
There is life
There is chatter
There is heat
There is love
There is forever
There is fire
There is dance
There is now.
I am all of it,
I am none of it.
I am hopeless
I am wonderful.

#### Withdrawal

Brain-zaps wishing for fizzy laces
Stuck in our braces
But we're too young
To hold the gun
Too young to be prescribed
For the rest of our lives
(Plus we can't afford it)

Too young to feel wrinkled
Sagging like witches
Drowning in poverty
Stuck in a pit
Daniel in his debt
Hoping for a lion
To eat us alive
So we can feel alive alive alive
It'd be nice to feel a waterfall

Than be dryer than sandpaper
Scorched in desert
We are much like cacti
Or barrels full
Waiting to burst
Wanting to burst
Soon you shall
But for now
You can't
So you'll put on a spiny smile instead



#### Glimpse into my Soul...

The moon gleams through the cracks I left there from before, Memories and moments I should leave to float offshore.

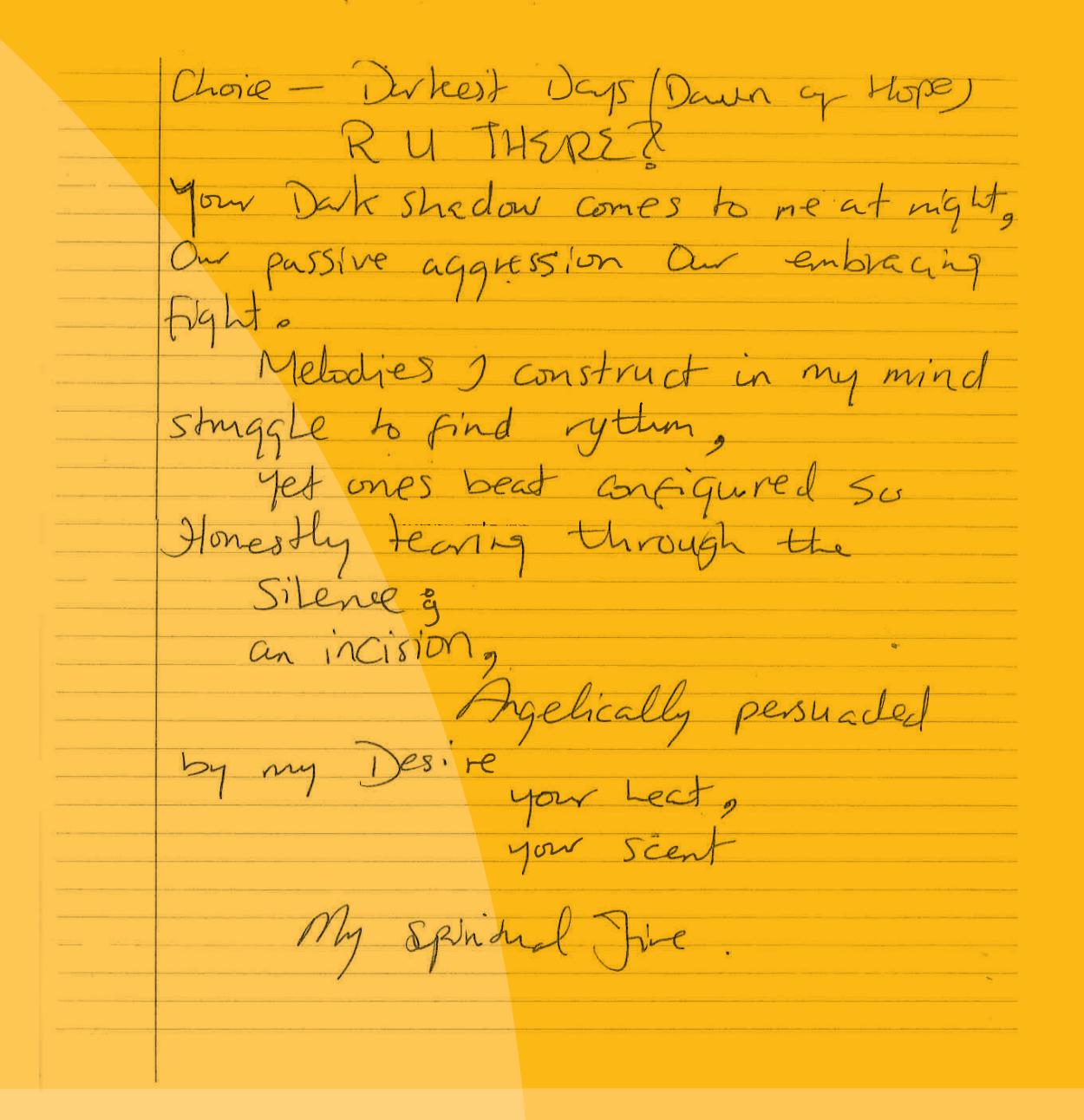
The sand below my feet seems to slowly sink away,

As the ripples in the ocean swiftly fade away.

Crickets chirp away as I steadily rest my eyes,
Thinking through the cracks and bumps before i compromise.
The day had been a nightmare, the night becomes a dream,
I guess being alone isn't as scary as it seems.

Hours seem to pass too rapidly to find, Every passing minute getting more lost in this mind. Happy thoughts, sad thoughts, i think about them all. They all tower over me making me feel small.

Through larger cracks, the sun arises from the dead,
Making me prepare for what's waiting ahead.
My eyes barely open as all i see is damage,
I'll peer out my window as soon as i can manage ...



## Sanctuary

Nightfall. Beasts pounce. At every corner.

My animal body cries out in pain.

Lost fragments drenched in sweat.

In this land of ice, warm glow spreads inside.

Bubbling springs suffocate flames. Wonder
at the plucky little girl hiding hellish hauntings
for the day she could be held.

Silent blankness. White darkness.
Wind swirls, moon greets, leads us in.
Wrapped in a silver blanket,
we can breathe, I set you free.
I become you and you become me.

## The LIGHT

A bridge of light flooded across the darkness filling the cracks in the path

As the serene apparition drew nearer, soft voices bathed the travellers body. She touched his beaten back, took his trembling hand to her breast.

Stroking his troubled brow
She comforted him as the night past slowly
As the shadows receded
into the realms of their abyss
As she led him to hope's new realm



#### **BPD** and Me

She is not my entirety but I let her perch on the edge of my identity. Swinging her feet wildly, growing from the same malnourished seed, she is the critical, invisible child in me.

She has her own entity, building cities and towns and herself a home where happiness is temporary. She is nothing like a river that gently meandering through meadows, she's is avalanches and tornadoes contriving my mental blemishes. She is my notorious nemesis, utilising my mind as a place she freely trespasses, a catalyst to my self destructive tendencies. Sometimes I am unsure if we are best friends or enemies.

She is a city that never sleeps, she is both rain and rainbows without a raincoat. She is my lack of self control and my hunger for too much control. She lives inside of me but I am not her home.

She carves words in the walls of my mind, crossing my boundaries a thousand times.

She is the author of my intrusive thoughts, but tells me these are poems dedicated to you.

Dangling from my ribs, she uses my heart as her stop pit, determined that she needs to baby sit the fragility of it. She tells me she is here to stay and that pretending she doesn't exist won't make her go away.

But there's beauty in her bite, my scars are precious pieces of our history. She prematurely introduced me to integrity overflowing my being with an inner authenticity. She is the architect of my past but hands over any power to draw my final draft.

I am learning to tolerate her tantrums, tempter and built up anger, recognising that she was birthed from trauma, teaching myself that she too has her own journey and together we are the main character of this story.

She was the secret I tried to bury, the extra weight I would carry. I was tricked by the systems theory labelling my bruised mind as evil and unkind. But she is nothing like google describes because she has guided me through the layers of my mind, taught me to see colour when I am blind, she is the influence behind my grind.

So I will love her kindly, no more avoiding her name because without her I wouldn't be the same.

#### My Mania

When I am manic, don't tell me things, or even hint, because to me it will all link.

Everything fell into place, it was all clear, but I upset others in my cheer.

Noradrenaline and serotonin pumping through my brain, to others I had become a drain.

Capable of things I wouldn't normally do, I'm sorry it meant I lost you.

Great adventures in my head, bad times for those around me instead.

Talking fast, thinking faster, why didn't anyone spot my disaster?

I lost my job and friend, I still find it hard to comprehend.

Dark days followed, and in them I wallowed.

I thought I would kill myself in a cornfield, luckily my doctor saw the signs of bipolar and medicine he wield. I still live with the joyful memories of ruining my life, I am one of the lucky ones who kept my wife.

### The Belief Will Come

Sometimes people make it better Sometimes people make it worse But asking people to make it better Only makes it worse

## The darkest days of childhood

When I was six years of age, that was a very good day.

Jelly, birthday cake, and blocked ice cream,

unusual for its day,
and my friends came to play.

A new baby sister had arrived, that was a very good day but she cried, and cried and cried, the noise would not go away.

Those were very dark days.

Mummy sat in Daddy's armchair, she held her head and cried, I was only six and a half; she said she wanted to die.

I still remember that very dark day.

I came home from school, one bright sunny day and looked inside the pram. Baby sister had vanished away. My Mummy wasn't there! I was very confused that day.

Our Grandma came with doughnuts, she really saved the day.

But my mummy and baby sister?

'Both have gone away'

was all that daddy would say.

Baby and I were taken from home, to others far away.

My brothers stayed at home with dad.

'That's not fair' I say.

That was my angry dark day.

At nine years of age,

I was crying, night and day.

Post natal depression and suicide, finally took my mummy away.

Those were my darkest days.

We first met in my teens
My shadow and I
An inseparable bond
Formed in early July

Whilst I lay in bed
She lay by side
Interrupting my dreams
With nowhere to hide

As I sat alone amidst all of my fears
My shadow was there
Instigating my tears

I heard her clearly as I sat and wept
As there lies facets of my mind
To which she is adept

I do not permit her to stand by my side

But without her I am unsure

Who would be there when I cried

But whilst I grow older
The more we can be
Understanding of each other

My shadow and me

She will never depart
Though I could not abandon
My cautious associate
A lifelong companion.

#### Borderline personality disorder

Relationships are either very intense, or very unstable, they alternate between the extremes of love or hate. People who are important to me I often under rate

My emotions can often change very quickly, I experience intense episodes of sadness, and suicidal thought. The irritability, The anxiety and panic attacks, It makes me feel I can't go on no more

My level of anger is often inappropriate, Intens e, and difficult to control. I cannot control my emotions. The edge of the cliffs is where my demons will fall

When I'm upset, I engage in recurrent suicidal behaviours. The threats, the self injuries The cutting and burning, The I'm going to end it 'gestures!

I have a significant and persistently unstable image, The image of me, myself and I

No sense of myself, or of who I am.. But what I truly believe in is that I'm only worthy to die

I have very suspicious ideas, I am even paranoid at times

I exper ience episodes under stress

I feel suicidally depressed. Yet other people is somewhat unreal.

lengage in self damaging acts such as unsafe and inappropriate conduct,

I engage in frantic efforts to avoid real people who are close to me. I suffer from ch ronic feelings of emptiness and boredom. And wish that I could be Borderline personality disorder free

#### Revival

A sunrise subsequent to the tenebrosity of the night, the illumination rescuing organisms from the engulfment of the shadows, the gentle warmth conquering the bitterness of the cold,

awakening from the depths of a long slumber,

the long-awaited salvation from an existence once dominated by the draconian darkness has finally come.

## Everybody hates you

And you'll never be loved. I long for you to shut up But you never bite your tongue. I tell you you're wrong, And that I'm not alone. Fact vs feeling, But the feeling Stays strong. Your vicious words cut, The wounds leave me reeling. You're my cruelest critic, My persistent mental drum. Loser,

Pathetic

### Someone Died

Someone died in my arms today, I couldn't see his face or anticipate we'd meet beneath the sheen of sun bursting light along the street.

Heard him rumble in the town, spitting cynically and biting at the liquid talk of other folks, with half his spirit but twice his life, tongues in circles as they spoke.

Spirit means something to most, whilst flatly birthed is life to all. Hands submersed in screens would tap, in character his spirit spoke as he, in real words, was trapped.

I'd noticed him across the street, in windows clean reflected neatly, or by canals near water still, or in the shadows that at dusk, in gaping yawns his form would fill.

Once he'd loved with every drip of blood, with mouthfuls of air propelled from a chest, that couldn't keep its breather's mess inside, that couldn't bare the stress, I held my arms and someone died.

Connected

Love turned to pain, suffering, and anguish A raging inferno, hard to extinguish Only one solution, one that remains Split away from each other; unlinking your brains.

It will not be easy but it mightn't be hard It saves your heart and prevents mental scars. And now you are free, free like a bird No longer cooped up, like cows in a heard, Escape the toxicity, free your mind And your discontentment will be hard to find.

## Big place, small person

The world is a big place Easy to get lost in Easy to feel small in There are moments of pain There are moments of happiness There are moments of stalling There are moments of finding myself There are moments of losing myself There are moments of finding myself Somewhere along the way This is how it is A journey of many twists and turns A journey that carries on

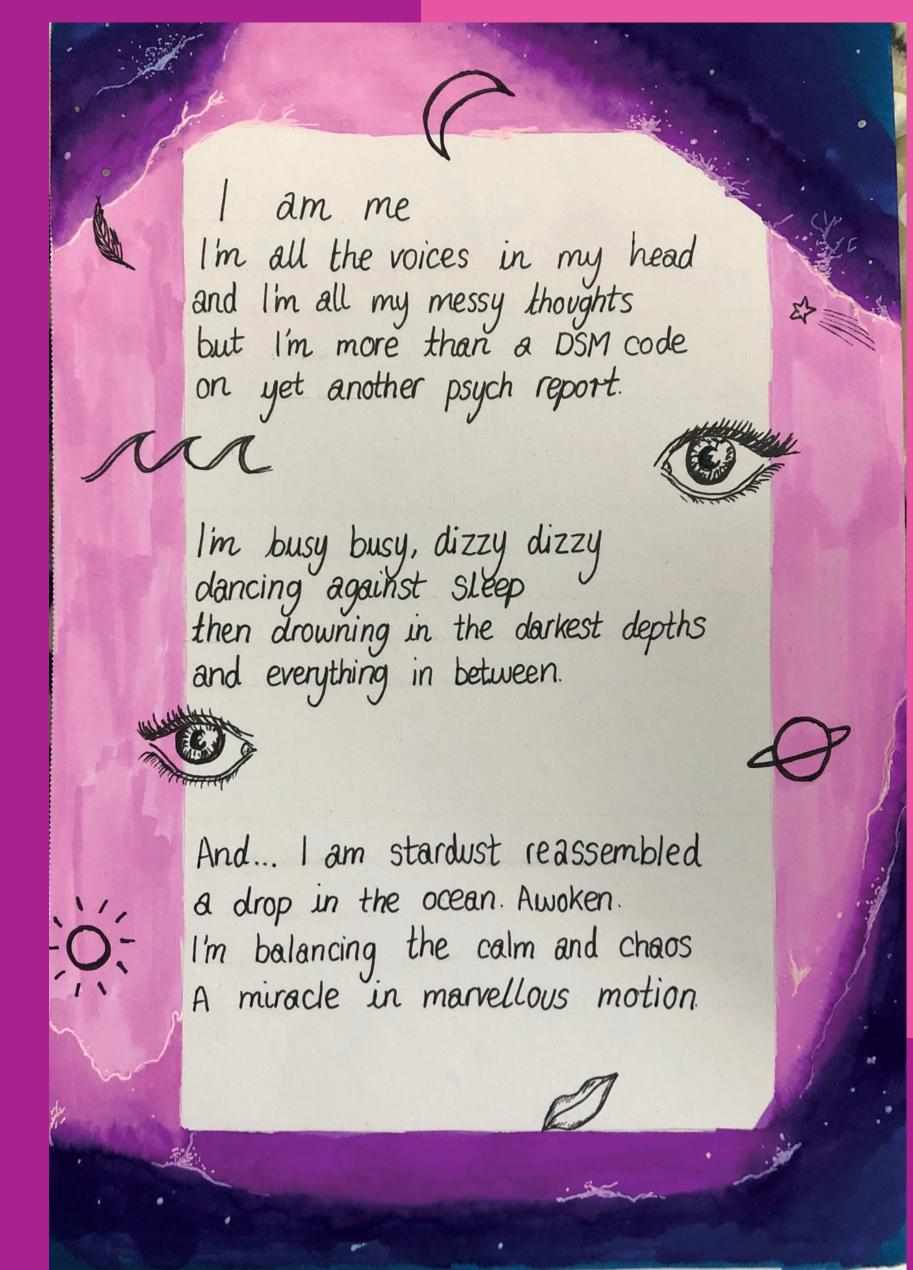
# WITH THE PERSECUTING VOICE

In multiple guises, he comes with many names; Is hard to recognise, even when near the tomb -For the yew tree grows there, alleviates my fear; And I wear my crisping pins, like a bride of God. The stones are my companions. The Devil is caste outside.

When I get back, put on my jeans and jacket, Over coffee break chat, do you call me crazy? I know I am not. Though things make me afraid.

When I tell what I have seen, in my safe-as-houses home, Which contains all sorts of threats, you think I should be shut up. But I am! Earth, air, water, fire, capture and nurture me: How can I go beyond them? I am always with the voice.

Going to sleep at night - not "what tomorrow brings", More, "will there still be light?" Or, "will I be there to see it?"



#### Life lies

It's hard wanting to live and to die Taking time from my mind I want to give silence a try But I don't want my family to cry So I push the darkness aside My true feelings I hide Ask me how I am and I'll lie See me out and think I'm fine When anxieties are by myside The complexities of my life That are lived outside of your eyes Judged I know, I don't mind You think it's easy, that's fine Your narrow thoughts are not mine And understanding takes time If you think I choose this your blind You'd struggle with the voices I find Nights without sleep, when I've cried Everything I've done and I've tried Yet happiness is denied I never want to write my goodbyes Yet I understand why them lines Are written down during times When there's no change in the tide You feel your a burden inside But I'll carry on with my ride Hoping one day that I find Within storm clouds of my mind

A clear day with sunshine

# Untitled

I have no understanding,

Can't feel my surroundings, What a chaotically slow feeling, As if my skin is hurriedly peeling, Chest tight like a door repeatedly trampling my little finger, These unpleasant, painful, petrifying palpitations forced to linger,

The weight of one heavy, vacant view of life on my worn down back,

This repetitive, rancid, unrelenting attack,

Every morning the same lethargic, tiresome tale, I try to leave,

I want to breathe,

But I fail.

# As Kites

If I could fly clouds as kites in mid afternoon, wouldn't it be good if the breeze carried me hundreds of miles high? I'd pass planes and their jealous passengers, seeing Summer's rays like spools of string, curled around my fingers.

But autumn calls me home for early tea, and the sun drops the line. My skin flakes like the clouds across a torn sunset, falling to the ground to gather in a fog. Summer showed me a world made up in grids of green and yellow, before she retired them brown and white with the kiss of her lips at the horizon.

While she wakes in some other place, I will sleep in the snow, dreaming of a hundred kites and the two hundred legs running after them. Only wanting to wake by the touch of her light fingers.

# In Memoriam

I wish I was in days gone by Dancing on the green Swirling skirts around a camp fire We gather round unseen.

For we are bound to journey on tomorrow And mountains may form and wear away So long so slow our journey.

We shall not see such times again So many many years must pass between Before our children may dance Upon the green again.

We will not set the empty places That share our every meal We shall find joy in many places Tho strangers we always feel to be

And always will our faces

Smile bravely on our young For whom the world has Just begun So when they come to know whats going on They will remember their places at home And find someone to smile upon

## The best medicine

For six long years we tried. I dreamt of you, but my body failed. Finally, your spark took hold. My world grew black with fear.

My mind swam in anxiety; my body out of my control. Then, I hear your heart beat. I see you, tiny, but warm within me. You are thriving.

Weeks tick by. My belly swells, my mind begins to calm as "B-day" approaches. I finish work. I finally begin to relax and think it will all be ok, you're almost here.

A veil falls. You haven't turned. My organs are failing. Instead of rest, I must make myself a sacrifice to fear, for the sake of you.

For days, I have to confront irrational fear to take a step closer to freeing myself from my greatest one, forever. I'm manic in my delirium.

My Everest is here. I've reached its peak, but can I live to get back down, bearing you? Yes. You are starving, but you are strong enough for both of us.

The wind drops. The air stills. My mind clears.

You are here, baby boy, you are here. I start to heal, body and soul. Each night grows dark again with new anxieties, but now, when I wake in fear, you are here.

In your sleep you reach out to me, your safety and your home; my mind returns a little more.

You, my dearest love, my baby boy, are the best medicine.

