## **House on Fire**

## **Assemblage 23**

Sifting through the ashes With unsteady hands Searching for the remnants Of a broken man

A history of hollow lives And low ideals A backlog of wrongdoing We never conceal

I rise to my feet
And walk away from the dross
Towards the doorway
Of our mutual and harrowing loss

The only way I know
To shake myself of this curse
Is to bring myself to something
That is measurably worse

I sought refuge in a house on fire
I took shelter in a wall of flame
I built a prison in my own subconscious
There's nothing else left
Nothing else left to blame.

Emerging from the wreckage Of a life that once was Confounded by the damage My own psyche does

I bear the scars Of an insufferable will And the tyrannical reign it threatens to instill

Some seek control
By grabbing hold of their lives
In a futile attempt
To help themselves survive

I dig myself
Into a much deeper hole
Running from a fate
That I can never control

I woke up
In a column of ash
While the world came down
In a horrible crash

I was naive For ever wanting this much Using self-deception As my only crutch

Footsteps diverge

From the path they once walked Words are eclipsed
By the language they talked

Actions betrayed
By promises broken
Flames consume intentions
Best left unspoken