

# The People Who Grinned Themselves to Death

The Housemartins

They smiled so much and waved their flags  
As she saluted to the military band  
Most of the people failed to see  
she had a broken bottle in the other hand

And she took them by surprise  
When she took them by the throat,  
And said "My friend you're not allowed to vote"  
But they shook it all off,  
With the nervous laugh and cough,  
"Next time", she said "I'll let those people choke"

People who grinned themselves to death  
Smiled so much they failed to take breath  
And even when their kids were starving  
They all thought the queen was charming

She polished all upon the wall  
And ran her hands right through her hair  
So if the lady took the time to call  
All the houses on the street would not compare

And she thought it really funny  
That she hadn't any money  
But those she looked up to, they had,  
But they shook it all off  
With the nervous laugh and cough,  
and when they took their riches it was sad.

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Smiled so much they failed to take breath  
And even when their kids were starving  
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