

## Granny's Mantelpiece

Nothing of value, much less of taste

The knick-knacks of life and memories of place

A small pottery boot encrusted with flowers

A wooden cased clock to tick off the hours

Joke ashtray with skeleton draped round the side

A plain photo frame of shy groom and bride

A screw of tobacco, ready rub on the pack

Pink plastic bobbles to hold ponytails back

A glass pot of collar studs, cufflinks and pins

And under it betting slips, for Grand National wins

A bronze letter rack of reminders and bills

A bottle (don't touch) of Granddad's heart pills

Postcards from Cleethorpes, a wedding invite

The charms and detritus of my grandmother's life.