Song from the Halfway House Paul Chambers

burnt autumn sky the fold of a shot deer slow white tide a lame bird flitters in the grass

autumn wind the sky on the water broken red winter sky a ribbon of swallows in the dead tree

moon on the wall my neighbour coughing up blood field of dead grass a horse tethered too tight to lie down

in the brown river they search for a body hammering rain

winter sky the dead child's clothes still hanging on the line

christmas morning a sparrow breaks the crumbs from the broken bread_____ faint south wind she catches the first snow on her eyes

dawn breaking the thawing lamb starts to blee<u>d</u> evening wind a feather trembles in the grass

mist on the window her small hand traces a prayer lying still after making love windblown leaves

summer dusk girls chalk their shadows on the new tar mist of my breath a web torn in the gate

a gull drifts beyond the hill summer deepens white mist the wing and the wave almost touching