**Poems for memorization and recitation**

Poems 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are from: 彭鏡禧、夏燕生 (譯著), 1994; 2007. 好詩大家讀. 台北: 書林.

(1) **Dust of Snow** Robert Frost

American (1874-1963)

The way a crow

Shook down on me

The dust of snow

From a hemlock tree

Has given my heart

A change of mood

And saved some part

Of a day I had rued.

(2) **The Eagle** Alfred, Lord Tennyson

English (1809-1892)

He clasps the crag with crooked hands

Close to the sun in lonely lands,

Ringed with the azure world, he stands.

The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;

He watches from his mountain walls,

And like a thunderbolt he falls.

(3) **Fire and Ice** Robert Frost

American (1874-1963)

Some say the world will end in fire,

Some say in ice.

From what I’ve tasted of desire

I hold with those who favor fire.

But if it had to perish twice,

I think I know enough of hate

To know that for destruction ice

Is also great

And would suffice.

(4) **The guitarist tunes up** Frances Cornford

English (1886-1960)

With what attentive courtesy he bent

Over his instrument;

Not as a lordly conqueror who could

Command both wire and wood,

But as a man with a loved woman might,

Inquiring with delight

What slight essential things she had to say

Before they started, he and she, to play.

(5) **This Be The Verse**

Philip Arthur Larkin (English 1922-1985)

They fuck you up, your mum and dad.

 They may not mean to, but they do.

They fill you with the faults they had

 And add some extra, just for you.

But they were fucked up in their turn

 By fools in old-style hats and coats,

Who half the time were soppy-stern

 And half at one another's throats.

Man hands on misery to man.

 It deepens like a coastal shelf.

Get out as early as you can,

 And don't have any kids yourself.

(6) **The hound** Robert Francis

American (1901-1987)

Life the hound

Equivocal

Comes at a bound

Either to rend me

Or to befriend me.

I cannot tell

The hound's intent

Till he has sprung

At my bare hand

With teeth or tongue.

Meanwhile I stand

And wait the event.