

homeland security

we may have been forced
to break the locks
we sincerely regret
if things go wrong
mark damaged areas
& check the small print
we may not accept claims
& there's no right of recourse
for those selected
for physical inspection
we appreciate your cooperation

NSA

LAX
(5 DECEMBER 2003)

pushback safety briefing
for defending the homeland
keep those lapstraps fastened
along the Essex coast
all the manpower required
for a medium-sized war
virtually ready
masks like this
near the end
of its shelf-life
ripples in the air
the capital captured
& government overthrown
make yourself comfortable

BA0434

LHR-AMS
(6 JULY 2005)

subject to random searches
basketball games & working out
in the gym 2 hours per day
one hand over the other
offered up for correction
these are routine procedures
leave all personal belongings
except what can be carried
in a single suitcase
you've seen the movies
shovels picks & chainsaws
maybe a bulldozer over the family home

BA0464

LNR-MAD
(6 APRIL 2004)

smog alert escape routes
at rear of aircraft
Blair jeered by the Euro
trash aesthetic mix
risk of asthma attacks
at all times
the moon is full
& we're ready to rumble
avoid being disturbed
just stay in your seat
& breathe normally
whistle to attract attention
enjoy the hospitality

BA0985

LHR-BER
(23 JUNE 2005)

laughter can differ
from aircraft to aircraft
masks descend automatically
yet the ship does not sink
once seated slip it
over your heads
it becomes internalised
never seen never identified
an anticipated horror
just a light & whistle
& the enduring darkness
once they stop
you've reached an exit

MT657L

MADEIRA-LOW
(10 JANUARY 2004)

lifts the flap on the buckle
the new world disorder
or the law of unintended consequences
the occupying army controls
only what it can shoot
pull the mask towards you
already you begin to lose
the borders of your identity
pull it over your head
how do you locate yourself
take up the protective brace position
with both feet flat on the floor
& 24,000 feet beneath you
we'll know where to find your teeth

BD0717

LHR-PRAGUE
(13 JULY 2004)