



At the clinic

“We’ve waited a long time for this !”
says the nurse, holding my urine sample
in a film-container, meaning I hope
the dazzling entry of Spring
at last from the wings,
spotlighted by the sun.

I’m entertained by a woman
Who claims to have no blood pressure
And a young man overheard
Narrating dreams of Merthyr
Turned into a giant fairground -
“An I woz on 30 grand a year !”

Glaucoma sounds like an obscure glue
High on the shelves of a DIY store.
Hereditary, they told me. My grandmother
Had an eye condition which meant
She’d wear a poker-player’s shade.
I could always work in a casino
If things became really desperate.

Mike Jenkins