

continually re-told  
from a different slant  
or another perspective  
none of it ever bores me  
and though at times  
there are small twinges  
of jealousy

minor barbs  
they only add spice  
to our lovemaking.

## MISSING BETS

of course it's always  
the money you might have won  
that galls like last week  
for though I ended up  
a hundred quid better off  
I might have won much more

and in another race  
in which there were thirty runners  
and no clear-cut favourite  
nor form  
I did something I rarely do  
chose two horses for their names  
Nobody's Perfect and Game for a Laugh  
and bet each for a one-pound win

outsiders they came in  
first and second

I won 15 pounds  
but had I bet them in a forecast  
I'd have cleared a hundred  
and so I walked home that day  
'if onlys' running through my head  
faster than any of the horses

— David Tipton

Bradford England