## NOTES

- 1. L. E. Elliot-Binns, English Thought 1860-1900: The Theological Aspect (Greenwich, Connecticut, 1956), p. 246.
- 2. Elliot-Binns, p. 250.
- 3. St. John Ervine, Bernard Shaw (London, 1956), p. 443.
- 4. G. K. Chesterton, George Bernard Shaw (New York, 1962), p. 135.

## VIATIC

## Padraig O Broin

Sidling by graveyard
Unbefriended
Whistling in the dark
A much recommended

Solvent for fear's

Ugly mordant

Or to exorcise ghosts

If quite discordant.

Whimpering like a child Or a trapped rabbit, Crying in the dark A grievous habitThat mordant salt
Corroding laughter
Leaves the heart
Unarmoured after

And who spills tears
Where ghosts partakers
Permits them tent
On his soul's acres

Till salt of faith
And bread of reason
Eaten. Then,
The famine season.

Whistling in the dark
Much recommended
Approaching the grave
Unbefriended.