

Brendan

Kennelly's legacy,
every line, every breath
blending depth and brevity;

master-classes -
in how to take the pith
out of Pythagoras.

Relief

The poet who keeps it brief
offers the greatest relief.

Surgeons

When Brendan and Martial connive,
the subtlest incision
rips out what's inside.

Dream

The poets dream -
create a piece like poteen
distilled, distilled and distilled again
till it verges on the transcendental;
with a kick like a mule
to send you mental.

No Hope

She had no essential credentials;
and, to put it mildly,
not one grain of talent - nor latent
potential.

Fame and fortune were secured
nevertheless, purely
on her differentials.