

The Colour of Hope

In 'colourless green ideas',
which adjective was right?
If cursed with synesthesia,

perhaps you hear your sight;
your senses play uncanny tricks
and nothing seems quite right.

Abstracts are neutral,
coloured by connotation
or sensory misfiring.

What then of hope - is it green?
The colour of life newborn,
unmarked by experience.

Is it red?
Revolutionary promise
of better times to come.

Is hope blue?
Like the heavens' infinity,
lambent, pure and true.

Is it yellow?
Like ripening corn,
or over-thirsty summer lawn.

Is hope orange?
Perhaps, if you're Dutch,
or hail from East Belfast.

Is it purple? Like Prince,
laughing in his Purple Rain,
you'll learn to live and love again.

But hope has no hue.
It's an ache in the heart,
for better or worse
demanding attention;
all colour's a faint,
and our senses' invention.