

Castles of Novara

Like a constellation of stars
with yet more stars behind them
scattered on the rich green velvet
of the mountains are the castles of Novara

Like noblemen and bishops
we walk free and proud among them
recalling wars and feuds and battles
in the peace that now surrounds the castles of Novara

Like a necklace of fine jewels
picked for contrast, shape and lustre
strung along the bright blue ribbons of Sesia
and Ticino are the castles of Novara

Like the heart that beats in every body
every village has its castle, like the moments
of our lifetimes, some are lost and some are luminous -

it's hard to count the castles of Novara.

Like the rich red wine you pour me
like the lakes reflecting heaven, like the mystery
of creation, like the valleys and the hillsides,
the past is full of future for the castles of Novara.

Victoria Field