



# Poetry

## 1. Prelude

My father is dying  
has been for months  
Sea side cures of no avail  
his letters from Onetangi  
are signed off  
with our Alsatian's inky paw.

## 2. The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Propped up in the sunroom  
my father acknowledges  
he'll not make that morning's service  
he requests a couple of carols  
a capella

### 3. **Gone**

My mother informs me of his death  
constrained by codes of conduct  
I know not what I should do  
except hide my grief.

**Piers Davis**