

## The Terrorist, He's Watching

The bomb in the bar will explode at thirteen twenty.

Now it's just thirteen sixteen.

There's still time for some to go in,  
and some to come out.

The terrorist has already crossed the street.

The distance keeps him out of danger,  
and what a view - just like the movies.

A woman in a yellow jacket, she's going in.

A man in dark glasses, he's coming out.

Teenagers in jeans, they're talking.

Thirteen seventeen and four seconds.

The short one, he's lucky, he's getting on a scooter,  
but the tall one, he's going in.

Thirteen seventeen and forty seconds.

That girl, she's walking along with a green ribbon in her hair.

But then a bus suddenly pulls in front of her.

Thirteen eighteen.

The girl's gone.

Was she that dumb, did she go in or not,

we'll see when they carry them out.

Thirteen nineteen.

Somehow no one's going in.

Another guy, fat, bald, is leaving, though.

Wait a second, looks like he's looking for something in his  
pockets and

at thirteen twenty minus ten seconds

he goes back in for his crummy gloves.

Any second now.

No, not yet.

Yes, now.

The bomb, it explodes.

The repetition of the mention of  
time adds to the tension in the poem, and  
slows down the pacing of the poem, making it  
feel more real

5  
The terrorist talking to himself in  
third person indicates some sort of  
craziness and instability

Describes the people's 10 clothing & behavior,  
to get a sense of attachment and  
familiarity with them

15  
The use of "lucky" and "dumb"  
is like dramatic irony, we know what's  
going to happen to those people, but  
they don't.

20  
A cruel way of foreshadowing  
when the bomb goes off.

25  
Tension used here is similar to  
movies, the moment of silence  
and tranquility before the bomb  
30  
goes off