01A balled-up piece of paper

crumpled with something

smoothed out scrawled inside

02Do you remember day we went to the moon

know dogs

even care that park.

03It was our first

worst

best

last date and you cried

broke up and then we fought and felt bad

sang with joy sulked

me \*walked felt free

\*held hands anyway.

04And do you remember, we made up

stood at the fountain

made a wish with false hope

shied from the crowds pained regret

a broken heart

found that bird

blue bird

black bird a broken wing.

05I wanted to look away

pick it up You said I’d fall for anything / for any broken mess

hold it to me and you made a face. try and hold the world and that’s why.

get sick to let it go.

to let it die.

06Well I thought *you* were sick

thought what so you were broken too

hated you a little

knew then that it was really over

came back later with my broken heart

a shoebox and I buried it

took it home.

07I nursed it back to health and cried

buried it

tried to love it

feel

forget my broken wing / heart.

08It had a way about it and pitiful, soft eyes.

smart, dull

a small soft, body searching, sharp

iridescent feathers calculating A blackbird

friend

grackle, maybe?

09I fed it scraps and leftovers. I gave it \*tears and water

\*greens bitterness fears sorrow

my regret \*grubs secrets \*blood.

10Over days

weeks

months it got better.

11(2)It grew healthy

fond of me

insistent

proud

large, larger by far. It stalked around my house+. (Or was that in my dreams?)

->+3,commenting

criticizing

appropriating, claiming it for its own->4

12(4)I could never do/give enough 5->to earn its trust.

rest approval.->5!

please it->5 love.

13(1)It wanted love

care

me

more and more. water, \*food, sleep.

wine, exercise, \*sacrifices.

\*trinkets, sweets, conversation.->2

14(3)It’s my true friend now.

all I need

larger than me +(Or does it only feel that way?)->2+

5->It watches me with derision. ->5!

looms over suspicion

judges contempt

15(5)I try

watch it

love it

suffer

serve it in waking->4+3+ 4/3!->it pecks and scratches at the floor

the walls

my dreams.

16I’m so alone

trapped with it

not allowed to leave

scared

17Please

Please, please

Please, please, please if you still care

love me

remember at all. Please.

18I miss you

think it suspects

need you

need your help

- but it will know, it always does. Oh what’s the hope?

19What have I done

become

love taken into my heart?

need

parasite

sharp ruin plunged