

## One two one

*David Ishaya Osu*

1.

a glass bowl full  
of songs  
—*though cold*  
ice cubes melt

2.

she falls	in love	with me
anytime	i wear	sky-blue
a bird	comes	to mind

—*mothers and kisses*, there were no shadows in the city  
nor tired windows—call  
your cats out, and ask them if they love you

1.

give time to apples, hold empty bottles, undress the mirror, and say the moon: one  
friend gives you her hand before a rose; two: your new blue boots  
arrive in a transparent bag; one, see what's in bed without light

## Day and night

*David Ishaya Osu*

lace & time / the love of  
last strings of old guitars

skimmed milk with the  
unapologetic & upward, what more  
shade / a moment for  
grapes & private lapels

the words left  
in a honey jar: light and darkness are  
friendly

i have heard a pink gown, i have heard  
watercolours, we don't lack pearls  
will

both bystanders &  
in our house / you  
see new & old locks

**David Ishaya Osu** is a Nigerian poet, memoirist, and street photographer. His work has appeared in magazines and anthologies across Nigeria, Uganda, the UK, the US, Australia, Canada, Austria, Bangladesh, India, France, South Africa, and elsewhere. He lives in Adelaide, South Australia and is working on a book of hybrids.