



'Blessing' by Imtiaz Dharker

Summarise what the poem is about in full sentences:

Annotate the poem with points you remember from your initial study:

Blessing

The skin cracks like a pod.
There never is enough water.

Imagine the drip of it,
the small splash, echo
in a tin mug,
the voice of a kindly god.

Sometimes, the sudden rush
of fortune. The municipal pipe bursts,
silver crashes to the ground
and the flow has found
a roar of tongues. From the huts,
a congregation: every man woman
child for streets around
butts in, with pots,
brass, copper, aluminium,
plastic buckets,
frantic hands,

And naked children
screaming in the liquid sun,
their highlights polished to perfection,
flashing light,
as the blessing sings
over their small bones.

What is the background to the writing of 'Blessing'?

What is Dharker's intention in writing this poem?

When was this poem written?

How has Dharker's background influenced her writing of this poem?

to inform

to highlight

to signal

to emphasise

Language		Structure and form	
	Example and effect		Example and effect
Sensory language		Irregular stanzas	
Verbs		Free verse	
Simile		Short lines	
Metaphor		Enjambment	
Personification		Colon	
Religious imagery		Lack of punctuation	

What other poems in the anthology can we link to this poem to and why?

How does Dharker present a moment in time in the poem 'Blessing'?