

Peter Hammill, Power Of Speech

Always we shout to be heard
as though our voices could express
the sense of sentences deferred
and of lessons learned,
of storylines unfolding,
of the truths of our innocence and shame,
of life, the very breath that we are holding,
of our very names.

We shoot our mouths off in adventure,
we ram the ammunition in the breach,
blow up the flowering of sense
with the power of speech.