Greyhound

Cradled maverick in my chair waiting for the red-eye. A patchwork veteran is on the street looking for a buck. There's a black-eyed mother of two asking for a cigarette. She is quick to receive. Thinking about last night hoping this one's better. Inebriated air sways through the crowd, running into everyone on its way. Leaving the smell of a bad part of town in everyone's nose. An intimidated youngster sits never being away from home, trying to make it as a man. The ticket counter beauty queen is taking shit from her boss. Every night wishing she'd have finished school. Now the bus has pulled in announcing its presence through the hiss of air brakes A heavy man doped up on caffeine and NoDoz loads the last remains of our previous lives. The sun better be coming up soon.

IAN YATES