

## THE THRONE - Queen Elizabeth II Coronation



### THE THRONE

The crown translates a woman to a Queen  
endless gold, circling itself, an O like a well,  
fathomless, for the years to drown in - history's bride,  
anointed, blessed, for a crowning. One head alone  
can know its weight, on throne, in pageantry,  
and feel it still, in private space, when it's lifted :  
not a hollow thing, but a measuring ; no halo,  
treasure, but a valuing ; decades and duty. Time gifted,  
the crown is old light, journeying from skulls of kings

**to living Queen.**

**Its jewels glow, virtues, loyalty's ruby**

**blood-deep ; sapphire's ice resilience ; emerald evergreen ;**

**the shy pearl, humility. My whole life, whether it be long**

**or short, devoted to your service. Not lightly worn.**

*Carol Ann Duffy CBE FRSL (b. 1955) Poet Laureate*

Ann Duffy