

from **Bedrock**

4:

From a safe distance, because our nervous
guide doesn't want to risk going closer,
we stare towards the beach through razor wire.

They use inner tubes or home-made oil-drum
rafts and this is where the current drives them.
If they're lucky and don't choose a moonless
night to cross, a patrol boat might find them
before the sharks. Some survive, but flotsam
and jetsam here are the stuff of nightmare.

Those who make it in one piece are sent back.
Amputees follow when they can travel.
Freedom gets more expensive every day.

By Ken Head