

Was Brexit really a choice to disintegrate?

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I was writing poetry before bed last night, as I do, occasionally. I'll spare you my efforts: the results are definitely not worth sharing. And before you get some great romantic notions, I was writing about Brexit and Ireland.

Why do that? Because like all art forms poetry is a way of trying to get a new angle on an issue. The need to find the right word is the challenge that I enjoy. In this case one word came crashing to the forefront of my thinking as a result. Brexit is, I realised, an exercise in disintegration. It's a word with few positive connotations and it works perfectly.

The EU and the UK are disintegrating.

The UK itself might disintegrate.

We are disintegrating from EU establishments.

Disintegration from European culture, values and conventions is the aim.

The economy is disintegrating right now.

Disintegration from the EU threatens to tear a community in Ireland apart.

And this disintegration is, apparently, the choice we made.

But ask yourself whether we really chose to disintegrate?

Because why would anyone do that?

Or is that goal, expressed by our politicians, an incorrect interpretation of the referendum?

And what do we do in that case?