

# THE SCHIZOID TRAVELLER



SHEILA K CAMERON

This is a revised version of the book entitled  
LOOKING OUTWARDS AFTER LOOKING IN  
which was published in 2012

The revision was made in part to improve the size of  
the text which - in the previous printed version - was  
too small.

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The material in this book was written over a period of forty years – more as an accompaniment to life than an integral part of it; although there were occasions when I was fully engaged in the attempt to write words that might become a song. And more than that, a song other people would want to hear.

Very few of the words were worked on although some of them were changed during the process of giving them tunes. Two were dictated directly onto a tape recorder during the night; *Like an Iceberg* and *Here I am in Ethiopia*.

One that didn't just appear as it appears here is called *There Was Rain All Around Outside*. It was written during one of my many returns to Haida Gwaii and is in memory of a dog I first knew there. The words were begun in a room which looked out into the forest, altered on the road travelling between Tlell and Masset and completed on the plane flying from Sandspit to Vancouver.

In contrast, all the words for *You come on over me in waves* were written on a bus in Glasgow as it waited in semi darkness at a stop underneath a railway bridge.

How I came to be doing this at all can probably be traced back to a childhood of being sung to, of singing

songs and later of performing them - sometimes professionally, mostly alone and accompanied by a guitar. But an interest in trying to write my own material was increased after Joan Ure asked me to add music to some of her words - just as I was hearing the work of Dylan and the Beatles for the first time.

Sheila K Cameron

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When you found out  
What I really was  
You really went out  
And bought yourself a horse

With a muzzle  
For a quiet ride  
Was what you thought you needed  
I began to slide

Down the green slope  
Onto the white lawn  
In the early morning dew  
I saw a rabbit yawn

A black one  
Like I've always been  
The black in the yellow  
Of your sweet corn

And as you ride off  
Across the narrow bridge  
The blossom from the apple tree  
Scatters on the path

Where an insect  
With a rose thorn  
Stuck in its heart  
Awaits to be reborn

As you wrapped the string around me  
I was looking into your eyes  
Seeing cool smooth lagoons  
Under hot tropical skies

I was feeling your mouth against mine  
I was touching your skin with mine  
I was mining and finding gold  
I'd stopped watching and lost the time

Then in the tangle I thought was love  
I couldn't move I couldn't get free  
There were no scissors around  
To cut me loose  
The knives I'd held  
Had slipped from my hand  
And fallen into the sea

Nobody knew  
What was going on  
We vamped a banjo song  
On the piano

A photograph  
With a crack over the face  
Of a stranger fell out  
Of its frame  
Onto the black keys

If a melody  
Can be sweet  
Then the one we played then  
Was

If a melody  
Can be sweet  
Then the one we played then  
Was

Seven cats lay out on the street tonight  
My cat watched from the window as she licked her lips  
The bowling green was spread like a table of grass  
The sun came back to the sky with a warm light flash

A cold wind blew down Corunna Street  
An old man with a grudge had set a van on fire  
A young man spat out of a first floor window  
The wind caught the spit and blew it back inside

Up there in the avenue of trees and broken fences  
You sit tearing old letters and files  
Smoothing out photographs remembering faces  
Still denying what you see in your own brown eyes

I tried to take a photograph of a cat rolling over  
I've never yet learned how to get close and not disturb  
This morning a friend on a rolling wheeled bicycle  
Peddled me with oranges and herbs

With tricky feet in two toned shoes  
He took me for a ride down easy street  
Held me up a lampost and shook me till the light  
arrived  
Kissed me hard while hanging by his knees

Are there pathways in the air for the birds as they fly  
Can they feel their way with their wings  
Are there pathways on the earth that will lead me to  
you  
Could I feel my way there through my skin

On thorny ground  
On a plateau out of town  
You laid me down

A wild dog off right  
Howled like a wolf  
Gone blind

A white moon  
Set two feet above the horizon  
Lit my eye

Of course it wept  
But self pity has no place  
In this sketch

Nor thoughts  
Of what went wrong

This is  
The end of my song  
As you heard it

Something not right about my eyes tonight  
Looking out as if through a haze  
Had a dream about the pope converting me  
Not the kind of dream to leave you feeling light

There was a sun the size of a pool in the sky  
This morning it appeared like a sign  
No one else seems to have seen it  
I wonder why

Three times now it's been clear its' not clear  
Three times now I've stepped outside  
Three times now I've held the same view  
And been surprised

There is nothing left  
For me to say to you  
I've been through it all  
I've done all I can do

You're not clever enough  
To fool me enough  
You're not foolish enough  
To fool you

So leave me alone  
As I've asked you to do  
Don't use me in your winter  
And discard me in the fall

You felled me at the start  
And I fell with all my heart  
But I won't fall anymore  
For you

Two sparrows were dancing  
Round a telegraph pole this morning  
As I stopped watching them  
I started thinking of you

I thought what I'd been doing  
Was a kind of dancing  
To the strain of your  
Muted tune

Down the pavement  
Past the silver birch trees  
By the daffodils  
The tree that's full of birds

I see myself  
Skipping lightly  
As I might have done  
As a child

In my body I walk and sometimes crawl  
In my mind I dance and often fly

Thrown back on the bed of isolation  
I blame dreams  
For giving me ideas  
Which can't be achieved in reality  
To hell with dreams

Who am I anyway  
Indulging in the luxury of dreams  
When some people consider it a luxury  
To eat

I waited all bleeding day for a phone call  
I wanted you in and out of my life  
Why can't you decide to decide when you're going to  
decide

At least the pains my own  
On this occasion  
Still I wish it would go away  
For a very very very long vacation

The earth has turned its face to you  
You have taken it tenderly in your hands  
You are crying to the woman with no voice  
Her thoughts fall like tears from the trees

The stream leads you downwards  
To the path by the lake  
You stare into the water  
A small fish slips beneath a stone

As you sigh a thousand white birds rise  
To fly your message home

The mountain bends to ease your climb  
You reach the summit on a night of stars  
The space touches you with eternity  
You realize the answer is never far away

When the earth began to move  
I leaned to hold each wall  
But in the end I failed to stand  
And saw the sky become the land

You tell me it was simple  
There was no design to move  
Your life away from mine  
You had nothing left to prove

You tell me you were honest  
That you never raised your head  
To take another mouth on yours  
Our love was never dead

From the moment it began  
Yet I see you on a plain  
Of broken glass and stones  
Feeding peasants with my bones

From the moment it began  
Yet I see you on a plain  
Of broken glass and stones  
Feeding peasants with my bones

Now you tell me you have taken  
All you can and now you're through  
I believe it as I did  
When you told me you were true

What happens after a while  
You stop crying out  
You cry inside  
Occasionally a shout  
That cannot be contained  
Escapes without consent  
An exclamation of repressed pain

Mostly the murmur grows  
A state of subdued confusion  
A classical retreat  
Into selective delusion

Passion declines  
Was it only appropriate in bed  
Apathy resides  
Like a thick woollen rug packed inside your head

What happens after a while  
You stop dying of life  
You die of dead

On such a fine day

Been such a fine day  
Went such a long way  
Telling you now  
Of what I have seen

Saw quite a big sun  
Shining on the low down  
Hills green and growing  
Grass flowers showing  
Daisies and celandine

Saw quite a high flown  
Bird in the sky known  
There as a swallow  
Swing through the hollow  
Golden with barleycorn

Saw quite a river  
Flowing forever  
Down to the clear sea  
Warm with the sun feel  
Glad we're together

On such a fine day  
On such a fine day  
On such a fine  
Fine fine fine day

When you informed me  
You'd been dismantling me  
For weeks  
I was in pieces  
From trying to understand  
Why I felt dismantled

The strange co-incidence was  
The crane out the back  
Was being taken apart  
In the fog

The dog was upset  
That I was weeping  
While I wept

What a relief it is  
Not to feel your repressed needs  
Seething behind  
A pair of cool brown eyes

What a relief it is  
To only feel a hurt  
Which is free  
From self chastisement

There's a cruelty now  
In your sweet smile  
It has broken at last  
Through the disguise.

I just can't take the blame  
I just can't take all the blame  
My mammy, my mammy my mammy  
Won't love me ever the same again

When was the last time  
I couldn't take anymore  
I stood outside your back door  
In the rain

You were listening to music  
Preparing a meal  
Contentedly cutting up  
A vulnerable piece of veal

Which you do so well  
There was a heavy smell of loss  
In the air

As you turned to toss  
Some spare flesh in the bin  
I was standing in the kitchen  
By your favourite chair

In a sort of tired despair  
Having been there before  
The last time  
I couldn't take anymore

Had to work right on through you  
Too long I've tried to  
Get to where you'd give me  
Your all

If we were to have been  
One we would have been so  
Long before this  
And we know

Had to hand myself to you  
Didn't mean to make it  
Too hard love for you  
To say no

What's for you will not go by  
I've gone by glad I  
Tried to find me  
In your soul

Goodbye I'm sad to be  
Leaving there is time  
But no time to lose  
Anymore

Weep tears for his sadness  
I'll weep for my own  
Let him dry your tears  
I'll dry my own

You reap what you sow  
I've said this before  
But I won't gather  
The husks anymore

I was kind about one  
I existed with two  
I expect there'll be three  
But I won't wait to see

I'll find me a friend  
With truth in their eyes  
Or else live alone  
With myself to despise

When it comes to the crunch  
The magician prevails  
When it comes to the punch  
The prophet is made

But hear me my darling  
You know I call low  
Come back forever  
I am alone

Wrapped in my blanketed closeted scene  
I talk to myself  
I eat toast and beans  
I pour me a coffee without sugar and milk  
I lie in a bed of modernized silk

I rise to a day of inhibited sun  
I put on a robe some years before done  
I go to the window and look at the sky  
I pour me a whiskey and forget to ask why

On the road beneath me a lady goes by  
One leg is crippled her mind is awry  
I go back to bed I can sleep if I try  
I pick up a book and read for a while

The child from next door  
Gives me a word  
I take it with pleasure  
Pretend it's unheard

The sun shone warm for you today  
Warmer than it's done before  
I felt it hot against my cheek  
As hot as once your kisses were

You rode me through my ignorance  
To mountain places where I saw  
A valley made of simple fields  
An ancient stone beside a door

A tree contained a cuckoo's nest  
The path towards it spread with thorns  
You guided me with naked wrists  
You used your body as a floor

The bird had answers to the questions  
You could sing his melody  
I didn't see you fly away  
You'd left before I'd found the way

The torment of your own soul  
In giving too much blind with trust  
Unfounded at last broke a heart  
Only God can focus on each particle of dust

The sun shone warm for you today  
Warmer than I've ever done  
I fought to keep my sanity  
And lost another race before the race was to be run

When you're singing it  
In a pub at night  
With a dry throat

When you're living it  
On a park bench  
With a newspaper for a blanket  
With a lamp-post for a light

When you're listening it  
By a gas fire  
From a stereo machine  
With a warm hand on your thigh

Think freezing night  
Think empty mouth  
Think anything  
Think making it right

My friend likes the country  
Goes on a bicycle like this  
Hello goodbye  
My friend rides glides and smiles  
Sings like a linnet  
Come down and flies for me

He's got a thing about sitting on fences  
Crossing bridges olive branches  
He's got a thing about throwing stones  
Up in the mountains all alone  
His own stones

My life is yours  
If you want it  
I don't have to apologize anymore  
To you  
For my possessiveness

Now you want to be possessed by me

We were flying too low  
Under a layer of clouds  
Never ejected to the sun's glow  
By desire

Today in a fast moving train south  
I kiss the fields and the blurred hedgerows  
I sing with the birds and cows  
Of the joy of the coming summer

Each house on every brow of every hill  
Contains our love seated by an open fire  
We are immersed in each other

This is how it will be  
Or this is how it might have been

My future is yours  
If you want it  
I don't have to dream anymore  
About you  
I am free to be taken or thrown away

The sun looked fifty times the size of a man  
My heart was small in comparison  
I didn't know  
If it had ceased to grow  
Or if it just seemed so

The sky stretched outwards for millions of miles  
Full of the planets of the stars and their light  
I thought of God as part of my life  
And heard my own voice saying so

The whole world moved in the rivers and the streams  
New paths were made and disowned  
Insects were crushed and broken wings blown  
Into the air as old dust

In the desert I'd like to be like one piece of sand  
Blown with the wind with only one place to go  
And in the one piece of sand I would see the sun  
Fifty times the size of a man

The blood of the turkey  
Soaks into the green grass  
Into the dark earth  
Into the dark stones

Its cries are heard  
Squealing through the trees  
Through the fields  
Onto the hill

Death exhausted  
Sobbing  
Under the damp sky  
Listening

The knife  
Crunching  
Into the bone  
The blank eye  
At Christmas time

Tomorrow  
Instead of being analyzed  
I'll wash some clothes  
In Persil

I'll hang them out  
On a soft washing line  
In the sunshine  
It'll be a tight line

I won't need a prop  
Or too many pegs  
There'll be a slight wind

When they're dry  
I'll fold them  
Into neat white piles  
And make a cup of tea

I won't need much milk  
Or too much sugar  
I'll choose a straight chair  
To sit on to drink the tea  
Until you get there

To watch you dancing  
In the square in the evening  
To see you smiling  
Into the eyes of a young man

To watch the blossom  
Fall in a soft summer wind  
At your feet  
As you move as you spin

Breaks my heart into a thousand pieces  
I can't hide the hurt in my eyes  
I despise my fear of losing you  
And try to lay it aside

It howls like a dog  
You turn to look  
I'm fleeing into the dark  
Of the ocean of night  
Which will cover me and keep me from your sight

This little melodrama oedipal farce  
This sentimental tale  
Wags for some in metronomic time  
Throughout the course of the play

The signs were there  
I said  
Is it only my own fears  
I see

There were indications  
I tried to listen to intuition  
But it wasn't speaking to  
Me

It was just groaning  
Like an old train  
Going up a hill  
It had gone up too many times before

And as for reality  
In the ice and snow  
The only reality I knew  
Was cold bones

I asked you  
How I asked you  
To explain why my heart  
Had gone cold

You said you were tired  
Then you'd stopped thinking  
Then you were confused  
Then you just put down the phone

This is what I am  
Sort of tormented  
Whatever I'm doing  
Trying to understand something  
With insufficient knowledge

Searching around  
Like in rubble  
Like in sand  
Sorting through  
With a child's hand  
Trying to get the thumb  
And forefinger  
To work together  
Before I'm able  
To stand  
On my own feet

The burning need  
That can't be met  
Just let it fade

It drives you yet  
Into the black  
And tangled wires  
Of cries and pleas

And holy moments

Wet at baptism  
On the forehead  
With a finger  
Now at the back of the ears  
With a paw

How sore it is  
And always will be

Through loves mill  
Ground  
I'm chaff

On the dusty floor  
I hear a dear mouse  
Laugh

Keep your head down  
For a while  
When the sun shines through  
The cracks in the roof  
We'll be warm

A smell of hay  
Reminds me of the fields  
Where we first lay

You can stroke me if you like  
I'm almost tame  
I don't expect too much  
I'm lame

Oh this time baby  
I'm not wrong  
The message you're writing  
Is clear enough to read  
In the dark in the dark

Oh no way baby  
No way  
Can you call this paranoia  
When you've tied me to the railings  
In the park in the park

You may even come tomorrow  
To switch on a light  
To untie or patronize me  
While you whisper let's not fight

Your words will sound so sweet  
I'll be avoiding your feet  
You've a kick like a mule  
Underneath

Oh keep me safe  
Till angel gets here  
Keep me alive  
Till monkey appears

You were one I was two  
We were doubled we were through  
You were single I was song  
We were troubled we went wrong

There was apple in the heavens  
There was pie between the crusts  
There were bubbles in the bottom  
There was sparkle in the ruts

Oh the night time  
Isn't my time  
You can take all my  
Afternoons

With the sunrise  
In the morning  
I can't wake  
I can't sing in tune

Bought a house  
On a piece of wild land  
Overlooking  
The winter sea

Bought it for you  
With my money  
Hoping you'd share  
My house with me

Left me standing  
On the sea shore  
As your plane went  
Went into the sky

Took a match  
And a can of petrol  
Watched the house  
Make a lovely fire

Warmed my hands  
Washed my face in the ocean  
Thought next time  
I'd build with stone

On the road  
By the misty beach  
The man rides a bicycle into the wind.  
From the window in a row of small houses

A child out of bed  
Watches him  
In her flannelette night gown

She is lost in the mist.  
It moves up her sleeves  
Settles around her feet

On the grass which lies between them  
Is a paper  
With the mark of a heart on it

The man rides on  
He disappears  
The girl gets into bed  
And sleeps

A building  
At the end of the same piece of grass  
I spoke of before  
Has a door in it  
Painted over  
An exit door  
A brown door  
The mist prevails  
The row of houses  
Seem less small  
There is no sign  
Of the man  
On the bicycle

This mist  
Is now a hoare  
And the sea  
Has disappeared

A jug in a bowl  
On a marble topped table  
A child in a bed  
With a stranger

Unable  
To leave  
Unable  
To sleep

For fear  
Of touching  
Of being  
Touched

Unable  
To leave  
Unable  
To sleep

The sound of pedals  
On a bicycle  
In the dark  
In the street

After you've missed the boat  
You might miss me  
But the way you miss me now  
Is by a mile

While I've been inching myself  
Along the ledge to your heart  
You've been grooming your wings  
To fly

And as I watch you soar  
And as I watch you ignore  
Again these crumbs in my hand  
I try to reassess the hold  
Which you have over me  
And crawl back in from the cold

After you've missed the boat  
You might miss me

As I came through  
The big dark hedge  
I saw a tiny bird  
Eating bread

I lifted it up  
Gently in my hand  
And it flew away safely  
To a happier land

Than this one's been  
With its hard sharp stones  
With its thick black sky  
And its heavy load  
With its old gates closed  
And its walls so high  
You couldn't even find  
A way to die

It didn't mean a thing  
Till I'd lived and realized it  
That's how it was  
And that is how I'm wiser by it

So come along with me baby  
Come along with me now  
Come along with me baby  
And I'll try to show you how

I'm reaching deep inside my head  
I'm coming up with eyes  
I'm finding I've a heart that works  
And words that don't tell lies

I'm eating up my past  
And I'm digging up my fears  
I'm laying them out in the sun to dry  
And I'm cleaning my ears

It didn't even cross my mind  
I would if I had seen it  
It didn't even strike me  
Till I'd lived it and I'd been it

So come along with me baby  
Come along with me now  
Come along with me baby  
And I'll try to show you how

As you slowly grasped  
The nettle of you own desire  
Felt the sting of your own exquisite  
Selfishness

You have torn  
The plaster of disguise  
From your heart  
To reveal that you despise

Openness  
Vulnerability  
And the sacrifice of stubbornness and pride  
In the pursuit of tenderness

And I wonder  
Why  
I've felt so  
Hurt  
And why  
I've died

From my room  
I see the window where you sit  
Accepting bouquets  
Of marigolds

You stare down  
Into the eyes  
Of a woman in the street  
Below

I want to explain  
My life to you  
But fear I would only make you cry

And I don't want one more tear  
To fall from your eyes  
And I don't want one more tear  
To fall

I want you to remember that afternoon  
As clearly as I did  
Your quiet placating voice  
As if speaking to a child  
In a pram  
Outside a shop

I threw my rattle at you  
I bounced up and down  
I screamed with my eyes closed  
You were so rude  
Do you know how rude it is  
To be polite  
When somebody's heart is breaking

Do you know how brutal it is  
To be kind  
When somebody's soul is aching  
For a real emotional reply  
To the question  
Without me  
Will you live  
Or will you die  
To the question  
Without you  
Will I live  
Or will I die

No matter what I say  
No matter what I do  
You play the same tune on the piano  
Of your open windowed room

As the melody flows out  
Across the lawn above the trees  
The upstairs room contains a woman  
Who weeps

On the warm summer pavement  
Lies the blossom of spring  
Moving in circles  
With the wind

The scent of the flowers  
Rises after rain into the air  
Catches on the melody to enter the ear  
Like a soft cry of despair

I remember a piano  
With a photo on it  
Of a soldier  
In a brown uniform

There was another  
Of a sailor  
Killed by a torpedo  
Crossing an ocean  
His mother wrote to say

Come and visit us soon  
We're a thousand miles away  
The death of my son means  
I may not survive another day

Underneath the lid  
Of the piano stool there's music  
So deep is the night  
Was the tune I heard most often played  
In that front room

It can be written about now  
Most of the awfulness has passed  
We should last  
Through the winter  
Unless it's your turn now  
To turn over the pasture  
To reveal new soil

I've got few seeds left  
Maybe only one or two  
What I have I have for you  
If we cannot grow together  
Let's quickly grow apart  
Attempting to love and leave  
May have broken my heart

I bend my head down low  
Ad whisper to the cat  
This is a very sad show

I see one tear fall  
On the top of her head  
I wipe it off with my hand she stretches up to go

I stroke her ear and think  
With a small thought  
Is anybody certain you've only got one soul

The stars come and go  
At the edge of the observable universe  
Will a ball roll

I was unable I was unwilling  
To disguise or hide  
The bits of me  
You didn't like  
The bits you did like  
You encouraged  
You wanted more of them  
On your own terms  
In between times  
When I was unwanted  
I became less of a woman  
More of a worm

Now you take me  
Now you leave me  
Now I suit you  
Now I don't  
Now I'm leaving  
Now I'm heavy  
Now I'm a suitable case  
For living alone

Like an iceberg  
Floating in a confined sea  
Big chunks fell off  
Which crushed me

Crushed ice with water  
Spread around  
Toes got cold  
Old flowers drowned

Arctic moons  
Shone bright above  
In mixed grey skies  
A wailing flood  
Of melted snow  
Swept down the valley  
To the frozen sea

I warmed you up with me  
I held you close and tight  
I put my lips to yours  
I kissed you hard and long

I wrapped my heart around  
The bruises of despair  
I watched your fears depart  
Dressed in a gown of swirling air

The child walked heavy  
In grown up clothes  
The pain in its heart  
Was very very cold

It did not understand  
Why the pain was so big  
For such a small body  
In time it hid

In the corner  
Of a room  
In a cardboard  
Box

Looking out  
Of a hole  
It saw  
The clock

Turn around  
To the wall  
And tick tick  
Tock

The lack of love  
Can turn  
Loose sand  
Into a rock

It was eating a bird  
The cat  
Chewing feathers  
Off its back

Held between its paws  
Close to the earth  
The bird bled  
The cat was fat

The stone you threw  
Hit a leaf  
The cat ran off  
The bird hid

You were eating chicken  
When I asked if you loved me  
A weak look in your eyes  
Made me think you did

Outside it was deep and crisp and even  
Inside I was full of Denis Potter  
And the word splendid  
Was being uttered  
By an uncontrollable me

You were elsewhere  
Trying to hold up your fallen fences  
While a little white lamb  
Ba'ad with amusement  
At your ineffectual plight

The pasture was almost clear  
New grass was sprouting  
From beneath old clods  
I was one of them

As I was about to cry out another dead word  
You chopped the head off a daisy  
But said as you did so  
That was your last

The destruction is spent  
Now is the time for dung spreading  
You sing Peg of my Heart

We did and can watch the same program  
And I lie down on the crest of your hill  
Where even moles can rest in peace

Pain is very hard to contain  
It's good if you can find a place  
To put it  
In a friend's ears  
It doesn't exactly disappear  
But it cools it down

Today I am trying again  
To contain mine  
When I was a child  
I just ran away with it  
To the swings  
And played  
Until my feet and hands ached

Keeping pain quiet  
Can make you wild  
But being wild  
Is better  
Than bleeding and even dying  
Inside

It's like ginger wine  
Remember it  
At Christmas time  
With the candles lit

You ate pickled onions then  
Sang a song about  
When little hen  
Will you lay me an egg for my tea  
They were real days I believe  
Even Granny sleeping was a treat  
How you saw it all  
And felt it  
Was so different from me  
What you took from it  
What I left you with  
Makes me weep

There's no way now however  
I am going to untie the parcel  
You've got tucked beneath your arm  
It's like a tumour  
Auntie Gwen got one  
From trying to keep dirt out of the farm

It's too hard for me  
To keep myself clean  
While I'm walking through this sea  
Of mud

No matter how hard I try  
I'm not strong enough  
To reach the other  
Side

Trying to get to you  
Trying to get to you  
Trying to get to you  
With some love

Don't go sailing tomorrow my love  
Stay on the shore  
The winds are strong the waves are high  
Close the windows close the door  
Close the windows close the door

My dreams seem to contain  
None of me  
My longings for the depth of green trees  
And the sea I never meet.

With you I thought I would soon realize  
When pared away the superficial drives  
A glimpse of some new sun  
About to rise

I fall again  
My dreams false ideals  
For which I falsely strive

Is it that I have lost for good  
The good sense that in childhood led me strong  
Into the warm arms of earth and field  
Towards the brine and spray of oceans song

I saw the sewing machine  
We'd found in the garbage  
Displayed on a plinth  
On your green back grass

I saw the garage  
With dusty windows  
The gutter leaking rain  
Onto the path with a splash

I saw an earthen cat  
With two round eyes  
Staring at a daffodil  
Puffed by a breeze

I saw a quiet face  
In a deep room  
Catch one last awful tear  
In an aluminum spoon

Have you cosied back up  
To your domestic fireplace  
Settled yourself down  
To your habitual rump

I am looking through the keyhole  
Attempting to find out  
If your head's full of me  
Or if your head's full of doubt

She moved her left foot  
I bent to touch her toes  
There was the sound from the fire  
Like the hiss of a snake  
In a hot lake

Its a dangerous place  
For love between women  
It's a dangerous place  
For love between women

Somehow everything  
From my suitcase  
Has got scattered on the road

I seem to know how it happened  
In the back of my mind  
But a soft flaked shower of snow  
Is falling  
I thought I saw a swallow  
Then remembered they flew south  
Some months ago

It's getting dark  
I'll find a shelter  
I can pick up the pieces  
In the morning light

It shouldn't be far  
If I keep my lamp burning  
Through the night  
Is falling  
I thought I saw a swallow  
Then remembered they flew south  
Some months ago

Ready for discharge  
The tantrums have ceased  
Cut off has been applied  
And taken seed

Resistance was steady  
Conditioning was sound  
The old line if you open up  
Your heart love will abound

The knife has been removed  
It was a difficult extraction  
Release of the tip produced  
A violent contraction

General appearance  
Withdrawn but quite bright  
Smiles with some effort  
Expression cool but not tight

Conversation small talk  
Avoiding the deep  
Objective unemotional  
Pleasant but brief

Prospect for survival  
Improved beyond belief  
Expectations limited  
Treatment complete

I've waited a long time  
Sitting at the edge of the road

In the grass I've seen insects  
Climb up a stalk and climb back down

White daisies have opened in hot sunshine  
And closed into buds in the rain

Gates have swung open  
Catches have caught and loosened again

I've waited a long time  
The sounds in the air aren't of you

I've waited a long time  
A small piece of gravel has entered my shoe

Loneliness is like a space  
In which you feel  
There'd be no place  
For anyone

Loneliness is like a tune  
Played by a flute  
Beside  
An empty lake

Remember how  
I always said  
That something in you answered me  
And you said I  
Imagined things  
That something in me failed to see reality

I wish that you were here  
To tell me that now  
I wish that you were here  
To tell me that now

I am ugly  
I am blue  
I can't see straight  
I can't sing true

I can hang my heart  
On any old door  
Swing with the wind  
Or dance with a whore

Can you see me through  
Without me having to ask you to  
Can you see me through  
Without me having to ask you to

I am lovely  
I am cool  
I can think it for a moment  
I can drink it to the full

I can look myself  
Right in the eye  
And tell at a glance  
I know how to lie

Can you see me through  
Without me having to ask you to  
Can you see me too  
Without me having to ask you to

We could live in a hut  
By the edge of the sea  
We'd have sand between our toes  
We'd have salt in our tea

This dirty old city  
Is getting up my nose  
I've got grit between my teeth  
I've got dust beneath my clothes

I've got carbon monoxide  
And lead in my veins  
If I stay outside too long  
I go grey in the rain

If I were a bucket  
And you were a spade  
Or the other way round  
We'd be made

That wind has come from somewhere  
I suppose you know the answer  
While I'm hanging from the wire  
Would you care to tell the dancer

With the broken nose I love him  
Before I'm blown away  
With a broken heart I didn't think  
There'd be a gale today

You are quietly observing  
From your rooftop hole again  
Saying I don't care don't talk to me  
Don't touch me It's a shame

If there was reason to your last move  
Would you plot it on the floor  
There's a draught in my heart  
I think I'll have to close the door

Did I do something wrong again  
Or did the coin fall from his hand  
Before I'd had the chance to call

If there was reason to your last move  
Would you plot it on the floor  
There's a draught in my heart  
I think I'll have to close the door

Don't be ashamed sister  
I'm only dancing  
I know I'm out of step  
Don't be ashamed

Must you turn your eyes away from me  
The sight you see is real  
I've been treading on the edge of life  
With ambiguity

The dance is set  
The tune is played  
I can't keep up  
I can't let go  
I can't turn round  
I can't stand still  
I was caught in the real  
Long long ago

Don't be alarmed sister  
I'm only singing  
And no one on first hearing is likely  
To understand this song

You come on over me in waves  
Like the sea rolling in over an empty shore  
You rise up in me like a lark  
In the early morning air

You come in on me like the roar  
Of a pounding ocean in a winter storm  
You lie down with me like a lamb  
Newly born

Last night I dreamed about Doris Lessing  
She had very grey hair  
She was eating a meal  
I wanted to dance for her on the table  
I wanted to please her  
I wanted to be  
Everything she'd want me to be

Tonight it got dark before I got home  
The pavement was shining with dirt and with rain  
I was carrying the day like a donkey uncertain  
If the carrot of evening  
Would help the day's load slip away

There's a time at night  
When the space around you  
Gets so eternal you can't hear a sound  
No cars no lights no voices no bounds to  
Calm fears there's no choice in whatever you say

I wanted to dance for her on the table  
I wanted to please her  
I wanted to be  
Everything  
Everything  
Everything  
Everything  
She would want me to be

I looked alright this morning  
I got into the street  
I walked for half an hour  
As if the lead had left my feet

Then the weight of you descended  
Like a thunder cloud again  
And I walked another winter  
Through the constant falling rain

You were an angel to me  
You were heaven here on earth  
You were a wonder to my soul  
You were a blessing and a new birth

If I speak now can you hear me  
Can you help me clear the sky  
If I believed I'd really loved you  
There'd be no more need to cry

Another day in there  
And I might have been  
A flower a plant  
Or even a tree

Growing rotten apples  
Hoping to be picked  
With reaching out branches  
And a trunk to be kicked

If I hadn't escaped  
Exactly when I did  
I'd have ended up potted  
Or pruned or clipped

As it was I got blight  
Or whatever one gets  
From being left untended  
In the cold at night

And I got lost in the foliage  
But by providence was found  
Before I'd put down roots  
On a patch of stony ground

No I don't see Lizzie anymore  
She took off with a dummy  
Which she trained to say mummy  
In a sweet agreeing monotone  
I tried to get her on the phone- once  
No I don't see Lizzie anymore

I do see the moon in the same old sky  
It snowed this year on Christmas day  
All I did was lie around and cry  
For something I thought I'd lost  
As a child

Pain has a way of sitting around  
As if it had no legs  
I made it a bogey for Christmas  
But it wouldn't get on  
It wouldn't get on  
Get on that bogey pain (repeat)

No I don't see Lizzie anymore  
I did get a replica  
Of love on a card  
With a picture of a piece of holly  
Stuck in a heart  
I wanted to tear it up  
But couldn't make a start  
No I don't see Lizzie anymore

As you are moving up the mountain  
Across the horizon  
I am digging a hole in the ground

Cupping my hands  
I carry water from the river  
To the deep brown earth  
I have found

I'm making mud  
I'm making mud  
I'm making mud  
I'm making mud

A bird on the horizon  
Where the mountain meets the sky  
Is silhouetted beside you  
My soul by your side

You haven't noticed  
You are walking  
With too much self  
In your eye  
In your eye  
In your eye

And you lied to me  
And you won't admit it  
And you screamed at me  
You were as honest as cricket

And I asked you to explain  
Why you were above lying  
When everyone else seems to do it  
Without even trying

I am lying to you now  
By not revealing all I know  
It's the lies of omission  
That are vicious they grow

It's what's unsaid  
That is causing all this pain  
In my head

So another day has gone  
I have talked with you  
The space between us has increased  
The sun set red  
I've thought of you  
The sky was lighter than it's been all week

I think it's time  
The children were  
Asleep

I am placing a lamp in the window  
You have drawn a heart on the glass  
But as nothing will change now  
With you here or with you gone  
I am letting this moment pass

If you laugh again I'll weep  
If I weep again you'll leave  
If I ask you to go I'll be so brave

I think its time  
The children were  
Asleep

But I doubt if it would be  
As I imagined it would be  
I remember you very rarely looked  
Me in the eyes  
And before we said goodbye  
You had decided to confide  
All your deepest thoughts  
To the dog

But I still can't get you out  
Of my simple little mind  
It's like walking through a bog  
When I think of you

And the thought within me burns  
Burns away in my brain  
Suggesting I might squelch  
Up to your door again

My wellington boots are too short  
My waterproof garments are too long  
My mitts make my hand  
Into penguin flappers can

A sight like this ever not be too sore  
Can a sight like this  
Ever re-approach your door  
With elan

But I doubt if it would be  
As I imagined it would be

I've been alone on the road so long  
I've been fooling myself you were walking along with  
me  
I've been alone on the road so long  
The footsteps I've been hearing must have been my  
own

I should have known  
I have been told  
That setting out can be warm  
That keeping up can be cold

I should have seen  
I have got eyes  
I knew your heart  
Was telling me lies

You were so sure  
You said your motives were so pure  
You were so sweet on top  
And so muddy underneath

Tonight I could readily say to the world  
Goodbye world  
Don't cry world  
There'll be more like me  
Unfortunately

There's a bird that never sleeps  
Upon my head  
It keeps its watch  
They toss it crumbs which fall  
Like dross upon my tongue

The billowing wind brings the snow  
It is the month of February  
The limbs of trees hold leaves inside  
And shelter hope

There is a place upon my soul  
I knew it as a child  
Where sits a man upon a cloud  
Where sits a man upon a cloud  
And gazes into hell

Tonight I could readily say to the world  
Goodbye world  
Don't cry world  
There'll be more like me  
Unfortunately

Got you here  
Too near  
To my dear heart

I'd let you go  
If I could but  
You're too much

A part of me  
In my dreams  
In my waking

I try to forget  
Somehow  
But there's no shaking

You from my mind  
Tho I don't want  
To lose you

If I had the world  
To choose from  
Then I'd choose you

That you don't care  
Is no reason  
To be sad

I've had a feeling  
Like this before  
And been glad

I know it passes  
In time and  
If you're kind

I will survive  
Until once more  
I can find

Me a love  
That wants me  
In the same way

Waiting for that day  
May I please  
Happily say

Got you here  
Too near  
To my dear heart

I need you  
Will you come home soon  
It's been an awful long time  
You've been away

I've tried forgetting  
Keeping busy  
Meeting people  
Every day

I really love you  
It's very deep now  
When I say your name  
It comes out like a cry

I'd like to be a bird  
Flying towards you  
Please come home before  
I just lie down and die

As you say you love  
You tear at my face  
With nails of steel  
With words of lace

As you want to soothe  
You lay your grief  
Solidly into my flesh  
You keep

It there and as  
The blood is released  
Along your tongue  
You apologize and weep

I'm sorry I love  
I'm sorry I live  
I'm sorry I take  
I'm sorry I give

As you want to satisfy  
Your body writhes with need  
Repressed by a lifetime  
Of unconfessed greed

As you bestow on your tenderness  
I sense that underneath  
You'd prefer to kick me squarely  
In my arrogant teeth

Let it come from the place  
Where the pebbles grind and scrape  
Where the sea of discontent  
Rolls on and on

I've a letter in my pocket  
I wrote a year ago  
Explaining once again  
How the tide of my love will always flow

Like a stream  
You wanted me to be  
Flowing onwards  
Into the sea  
Of you

Let it fall from above  
That sweet refreshing rain  
Let my eyes be washed clean  
Of seeing only this love's pain

Like a stream  
You wanted me to be  
Flowing onwards  
Into the sea  
Of you

Sitting outside your front door  
An umbrella for a roof  
Rain pelting down sounds so sweet  
Like being in a tent I've come to tell you

That a poof  
That a poof  
Can shine  
That a poof  
That a poof  
Can shine

Coming down the gutter a white paper boat  
With a dry mouse in it  
Written on the sails a mouse can be gay  
I know because I've been it

I decide instead  
Of waiting  
To set sail  
For paradise again

The mouse  
Is an expert  
On stopping little boats  
From going down  
Going down  
Going down  
The drain

She put my baby in the drawer  
And forgot to take it out  
And it cried all day  
And it cried all night

I waited in the street  
I waited in the house  
I waited in the corner  
Like a mouse

I stood at the window  
I stood at the stair  
I stood on the cat  
In despair

I wanted to ask her  
Where has my baby gone  
But it seemed I should wait  
For her to speak

But when three months had past  
I decided to be rude  
I sent her a letter saying  
WHO ARE YOU

Not to give me my baby back  
Not to give me my baby back  
Not to give me my baby back  
Not to give me my baby back

Don't you tell me what coming out can mean  
Until you know how to be mean  
You say you mean what you say  
But everything you say  
Has a way of coming out clean

I see you're wearing a tie  
Under a well cut collar  
You've cut your hair to the bone  
I see you're looking at me  
With an eyebrow raised  
Asking why I prefer to stay home

So you've dabbled on the edge  
On a Saturday night  
And you're about to get in deep  
Well you'll discover this time  
When you do that it won't be  
So easy to come out sweet

Did you see Martina in the space at the end of the  
tunnel with a tear in her eye  
Did you see Martina in the space at the end of the  
tunnel with a tear in her eye

I'm giving up  
You've worn me down  
You've known all along  
It's taken me some time  
To accept what you want  
Could never be me  
I need security  
You need to be free

You've been patient I'll admit  
In showing me the path  
That leads from your door  
To other pastures  
I've cast  
Myself in the role  
Of plaintiff till I'm so  
Weary of pleading  
I'm forced to let go

I am biting back the words  
That my heart needs to speak  
If my head would take over  
I'd be able to leave  
Without tears or tantrums  
I might even cry  
As I close the door between us  
And say  
Goodbye

Watch you don't lose her in the long ong ong ong long  
ong ong ong grass  
Watch you don't lose her in the long ong ong ong long  
ong ong ong grass

In the corner of the garden  
A tightrope is strung  
Between the garage and the tree  
A cat sits underneath  
Sniffing its feet

In the lane outside  
A car is sitting  
Going oink oink  
It's a rough rough road tonight  
To get to where  
We can lift the lid  
Lift the lid  
Lift the lid

In a house down the road  
A stained glass window  
Is looking out at the moon  
It sees the world as green  
I see the world as blue.

I take my pen  
I write to you  
The letter is not sweet

I say I am moving swiftly away  
To where I can keep  
My neat neat brain  
Complete.  
The plant by the window  
Is blocking the light  
I smash it to the ground

I can see the sky  
You are crying why  
You are crying why  
You are crying why  
At the bottom of the hill  
The doctor with the pill  
Is handing it out to me.

She's giving me her ear  
So so politely  
I feel like a flea  
I feel like a flea

When you get to the corner  
You turn around  
It seems it's by the sea  
It's only the light  
From across the river  
You're finding finding me  
You're finding me.

If you get past here  
We'll be out at sea  
We'll be burning in the sun  
Your skin will become hard  
My heart is hard already

The boat might break in two  
We'll float, float, float-apart  
You'll end up in Africa  
I'll find the roots of the other woman

You don't want to push it  
Till it gets too far  
Till it gets too far it falls off the edge  
Into the back of Maryhill

Where you can see  
Where you can see  
Where people have bled  
Bled bled bled bled bled bled bled

Up in the sky  
I see her walking the tightrope.  
She has a very very very balanced mind  
Nothing gets in there  
It would be unkind  
She's blind

But she knows it  
She likes it that way  
Well she says she does  
There's no more I can say

I'd like to go away now

[Noises]

You tell me nothing  
You say you don't know how you feel  
You reveal your body  
While your head remains concealed

I could look for you forever  
And find only me  
I anticipate a banquet  
Accept a milky cup of tea

Pigs and fishes  
Shallow dishes  
Narrow misses  
Fallow wishes

You tell me something  
In not saying anything at all  
How can I understand it  
With my nose squashed against the wall

I tell you everything  
It goes in one ear and out of the other  
You want me to be a friend  
I want you to be a lover

I could look for you forever  
And find only me  
I anticipate a banquet

Accept a milky cup of tea  
I look out into the blue night  
I see a light below the stars  
I think you always come here smiling  
I think you try to hide the scars

For someone else  
But not for me love  
Don't strain your face  
Into a smile

I take you serious  
With sad eyes  
I take you real  
Without the lies

Don't hold the hurt  
To make it easy  
Don't hold the truth  
To make it last  
Don't dress your sorrows  
In glad rags  
Don't stash your tears  
In plastic bags

I look out into the dark night  
I see myself reflected there  
I think I always hide my own lies  
By asking others to show me theirs

It's taking so long  
It's going so slow  
This time of getting  
It all wrong

I know it should pass  
I. e. nothing will last  
I wish I had some control

Can you believe he  
Cries each night  
I think you might  
Dry his eyes

I think you might dry his eyes  
I think you might dry his eyes  
I think you might dry his eyes  
I think you might dry his eyes

I am with you in your sleeping  
Wrapped around you in your dreaming  
I am with you in your waking  
Thinking of you almost every moment of each day

I am learning how to love you  
Without asking too much of you  
I am hoping if I am careful in my waiting  
You will choose to spend your life with me

I am reaching out to you  
In every way I know  
I know I haven't all you need  
But what you need from me  
Can surely grow

We could let this burn through  
To the edge of our souls  
Without sheltering the flame  
Or limiting the glow

I am with you in your sleeping  
Wrapped around you in your dreaming  
I am with you in your waking  
Thinking of you almost every moment of each day

There's an old sadness in me  
From a long time ago  
You turned the key  
And let the waters flow

From the clouds to the mountains  
From the streams to the sea  
My tears would fill an ocean  
Before you'd say you needed me

Before you'd say you need me  
I'd be empty of love  
Before you'd say you need me  
I'd be empty of love

If my tears would fill an ocean  
I'd expect you'd find a way  
To sail me with your sails outstretched  
Well sail away  
Sail away

I want to know you  
I want to excite you  
I want to look deep deep into your eyes

I want to hold you  
I want to delight you  
I want to book you into my life

If you and I could find the way  
To shake that tree and keep the leaves  
With nothing heavy falling off  
And chancing hurt on those we love

I'd sit up in the branches with you  
All day long and night time too  
I'd look into your tender eyes  
And see my own there shining true

There's something in you  
Makes me hungry  
There's something in you  
Makes me cry  
There's something in you  
Makes me greedy  
To be on fire

Goodbye old friend  
It was an unhappy start  
You wept on my pillow  
When you took me to your bed

The early days were rich  
With good food and booze  
Sheets always clean  
Only sadness to lose

I soon got rough  
Those days by the hot sea  
You spoke French  
Were gentle with the bad dreams

We traveled to the flat lands  
Moving sideways through the snow  
We paddled in an ocean  
Felt the pins and needles grow

I left you in the winter  
With an anxious heart and mind  
You smiled as I departed  
Since then I've rarely smiled

Goodbye old friend  
It was an unhappy start  
You wept on my pillow

When you took me to your heart  
It's too hard for me  
To keep myself clean  
While I'm walking through this sea  
Of mud

No matter how hard I try  
I'm not strong enough  
To reach the other  
Side

Trying to get to you  
Trying to get to you  
Trying to get to you  
With some love

Don't go sailing tomorrow my love  
Stay on the shore  
The winds are strong the waves are high  
Close the windows close the door

This is no way  
To spend an evening  
Are you alone  
I am alone  
Inside  
There's a party going on  
At the house next door  
They are drinking themselves blind

I was blind to you today  
Too much caught up in my own pain  
I asked if you felt like I did  
That we'd been cast in different plays

Which act is this  
I remember your kiss  
I can still taste your mouth on mine  
Which act is this  
I still remember your kiss  
I can still taste your mouth on mine

It's a cold cold night  
I wish you were in my arms in my bed  
It's a long long time  
To wait and wait again  
To find what space there is for me in your head

This is no way

To spend an evening  
You led me blindly up the alley of confusion  
You said a fairy had a magic gift for me  
But when I opened my eyes  
I saw a friend who told me lies  
Was boxing with the shadow of a tree

As I turned to run a door was closed behind me  
The only path was forwards I crouched down  
You hit me on the nose kicked my hat off with your  
toes  
And said take that for once pretending you were free

Things keep happening I don't quite understand yet  
I have this feeling people hide behind their face  
You have spoken to me often about trust yet  
It doesn't seem to carry too much weight

I mean why did you lead me up the alley  
And why did I agree to go blind  
Do I really still believe in fairies  
Does a good friend really tell you lies

And why did you want to kick my hat off  
I accepted the hit on the nose  
And why did you say I was pretending to be free  
When I don't really know what free means

You say I ask too many questions  
So instead I've started talking to the wall  
Now you say I've got so peculiar  
I'm not worth talking to at all

Because you put a red rag in the washing machine  
All my clothes have gone pink  
If you can understand what I'm saying  
I won't sink  
I won't sink  
Into the dee-ee-ee-eeep  
Ink of the blues

I saw a coffin today  
And boy  
Did it make me jump  
For joy  
That I wasn't in it

Kittens open their eyes in eight nine or ten days  
Approximately  
Puppies take more time  
You and I are waiting for me to open mine

I can taste you in the wood of my room  
I can taste you in the rug on my floor  
I can taste you in the air  
I can taste you everywhere  
I can taste you in the night  
And in the moon

You turn from me  
With sunlight in your hair  
And sparkling like the water there  
The grass lies soft beneath your feet  
And takes your step with ease

I want to lie both above and beneath you  
I want to sandwich you into my life  
I want you filling my head  
I want you spread on my bread  
I want you between the sheets of my bed

Sail me like a boat  
Across the cool water  
Sail me like a boat  
Across the evening sky  
Sail me like a boat  
Across the red sunset  
Sail me like a boat  
Into the night

To sail away  
On the soft salt spray  
Without saying to you  
The time or day  
And to feel no pain  
Or blame or shame  
That's how I'd like  
To go away

Without money am I still your honey  
Repeat

If I were to sit  
By your side  
For hours  
By the sea  
Before you'd speak  
The sea  
Would speak  
To me

At four o'clock  
This afternoon  
You phoned to tell me  
We were too in tune to sing  
So I sang alone  
A lovely tune  
The birds joined in

A piece of rag  
With frayed edges  
Caught in a gale  
Swept about a dark sky  
Swept about a mile high  
Swept up when the gale died  
Swept up by a stiff brush  
Into a neat pile

If only  
You could hold me  
All the time  
Is the chorus  
The verse is  
Hold me all the time

The trouble with me  
Or one of the troubles  
As far as I can see  
Is that I don't take the trouble  
To see  
What the trouble is  
With me

My only defense is distance  
When I don't keep it  
I fall into a pool  
Of deep dark drowning water  
I'd be a fool to drown for you  
But I do

I wish you to be so honest  
It would make me scream  
Then I wish you to hold me so close  
I could hardly breathe  
Then I wish you to let me go  
So I could walk away  
Then I wish you to call me back  
And insist I stay

Footsteps  
A sharp knock  
A sharp look  
A new lock

We belong in the days  
When a kiss was a kiss  
And a chew was something  
To do with food

The sad realization  
That you don't love me very much  
Has left me with a very sick  
Sensation in the gut

Love can not be long sustained  
Love can not be blamed for fading  
Love is tamed infrequently  
Love is ideal once a week

It's amazing how alone I am  
Unless someone is calling out for me  
If I call out for myself  
I see weak tea  
In a white cup  
Rocking on a saucer

My cat sleeps beneath the Pentecostal church  
The Pentecostal church, the Pentacostal church  
My cat sleeps beneath the Pentacostal church  
And he sings with amazing grace.

Never leave a bottle with its top off  
Never leave a foot without a shoe  
Never leave a head without a hat on  
And never leave me without you

From a tree  
A leaf came falling  
Dropped in the river  
And went on floating  
Slowly down  
To where the sea  
Meets with the sky  
And came to be  
A bird that flew

Old lady moon  
Looked down from above  
With a smile on her face  
Much bigger than love  
Through the wisp of a cloud  
That was passing her way  
She whispered goodnight  
What a beautiful day  
It has been

Sleep my love  
And when you rise  
I'll bring the sun  
To light a sky  
Of blue and when  
The day is through  
A star will be  
Your pillow

Like a tortoise  
Withdrawing into its shell  
Calling I do love you  
I just can't keep up with the pace  
I really like your face

While you sleep in the morning little one  
All the birds wait to sing to you their song  
And the sun stays behind the clouds  
To save its light for you  
And when you wake  
You'll find me waiting to

For I love you more than these  
Even tho I fail to please you  
The way that you would want me to  
Would want me to

What the hell's going on  
In this rotten relationship  
I can't get in touch  
When I want to touch

Or when I want to kiss  
Or when I want to kill  
Or when I want to just  
Lie down in your arms  
And rust

With his head on a stone  
He lay in the desert  
A black fly crawled  
Through his black hair

A gun in the distance  
Shot at a shadow  
Of God flying over  
Dressed in a skirt

I tell you I said  
I've discovered the trouble  
It's not in your heart  
It's here in my eye

I've fixed it in line now  
It's set on a shallow  
Hollow of water  
That never but never  
But never but never  
But never but never  
Goes dry

Two cold stones  
At the side of a field  
Remind me of the day  
I came to see you dead

Remind me of your head  
On a cold white sheet  
Daffodils in an alcove  
Kneeling to stop weeping  
In front of a stranger  
With a collection of keys

The time will come  
You said  
When the scream will disappear  
Between two bricks  
In a crumbling wall

Meanwhile  
I said  
Will you for God's sake  
Stop speaking to me  
As if I were a poodle

Whoever you mix with  
You acquire  
Like a superficial coat

Your verbal attire  
Loses all authenticity

I can scrape away the leaves  
In the autumn of your garden  
To discover the earth beneath  
Has turned to chatter

Let me tell you how they did it  
Back there  
Last year  
It was beautiful I tell you  
Back there  
Last year

People came to you with open arms  
Back there  
Last year  
And they did it with a simple charm  
Back there  
Last year

And they hung a garland round you  
Back there  
Last year  
And when they faltered they refound you  
Back there  
Last year

And when you sighed  
And when you cried  
And when you died  
It was beautiful I tell you  
Back there  
Last year

You are walking through the town  
With thorns for a crown  
You are saying to the people  
Who crowd around you  
There's a steeple in the sky

You are waking to a day  
Which is lost but you display  
Such a calm to everyone  
No one will ever know  
You've gone away from me

You are laughing I can hear you  
You are crying I am near you  
I am trying to forget you  
But there is no way  
To let you leave my mind

Let me live this moment for what it is  
Let me live this moment it is all that there is  
Let me live it to the full  
Let me live it right through  
And let tomorrow take care of itself

I have tried to appreciate the benefits of banking  
Ones money for a rainy day but I'm not thanking  
Money for anything at all

I'm a peasant in my heart I can easy play the part  
If the sun shines today and it's warm I can say  
Sunshine is the best thing I have had

You in your small corner  
And I in mine

From this place I see you trace your life  
Into a maze of love and hate  
From this place I see you taste the heights

But sure we're small  
Beneath it all  
I hear you call my name

Break away and have your say  
Lift the roof off see the day anew  
Truth can be beheld by anyone

You in your small corner  
And I in mine

Did you know I won the race  
To the emptiness I face  
Without knowing where  
I was running to

Can you believe tho I was wrong  
That the love I felt was strong  
And I thought it answered  
Everything in life

Come here see me on my bed of nails  
I put them there myself  
The wails you hear are self inflicted  
I've been making nails instead of love  
For years

Moving with my eyes above  
I see nought of this thing called love  
The days slide by beneath my feet  
I have a heart which cannot beat

Below me I know people stare  
They say she comes beware  
There once was magic in her eyes  
The truth has gone the light has died

For moments you might see a gleam  
As she remembers last year's dream  
A smile can still transform her face  
Then disappear without a trace

Falling into life's abyss  
In desperation I kiss  
The air which fill the air the air  
Envelopes me till I'm not there

Take the coffee off the stove  
And put an end to all your moaning  
There are things to be done  
There are place to be going  
There's a sky above that's waiting  
And a road that could be taking  
You and me to where the mountain stream  
Flows like a fountain to the sea

There's a time to sit and wonder  
What the world may bring I'm fonder  
Of enjoying what there is right now  
Making it to work somehow for me

I am sorry your brother is almost dead  
And you're wife has a gash in her newly done head  
She always looked perfect  
Whatever she work  
I hope she'll look as lovely in the evermore

It is delightful for some  
It is frightful for others  
It is God full  
Each one to his own

I am glad to hear you are almost alive  
The way you are going you'll continue to survive  
You always looked good in your Ku Klux Klan hood  
I hope you'll look as lovely when the world gets good

I am sorry your hear has almost disappeared  
The way you don't think there is nothing much to fear  
Fear is upsetting if you look it in the face  
Why not come on over I'm susceptible to lace

The tide comes in the tide goes out  
The big black eagle doesn't have a doubt  
He sits at the top of the barren tree  
Waiting for the day when the sun breaks free

When the sun breaks free  
When the sun breaks free  
Waiting for the day  
When the sun breaks free

A child is wandering by the shore  
Imagining the dress she almost wore  
A wave comes up and into the sea  
She is washed away so easily

An old man stands against the wall  
A knife in his chest his pale cheek torn  
The pipe he smoked lies in the earth  
His last words lost in the cash desk mirth

A mirror is held by a delicate hand  
The décor is tastefully off white and tan  
Outside on the porch hangs a shivering deer  
Death it was painless without a tear

Appetites paling with sodden eyes  
Gallop seedlessly and crumple  
Wild mouthed in fistfuls  
Of broken teeth

Streams of living fish  
Fly to hot pans screaming  
Remove my eyes  
Before the pain begins

Young bears hung on empty trees  
Mourn their rotting fur  
Men polish the barrels  
Of satisfied guns

Each creature turns mindlessly  
In its own mind  
Pursuing safety  
From the blind foot

Anchors heavy with hurt  
Break loose demolishing  
A weed bent  
On man's humourous abuse

Hoochy poochy coming in  
Bombs as big as my three chins  
America you expansive land  
Bury the money dig up man

Rice is nice it fills the belly  
Mixed with glue it mends the telly  
Sticks and stones will hurt your bones  
Dig me a hole and call it home

Paddy puts his seeds deep in  
Plane explodes and makes it thin  
Hands without arms arms without feet  
Eat the ground is that a black sheep

Gentleman with well shaved ache  
Illustrates the pictured rake  
Scraping up has been the mode  
Since Ruth showed humbleness is god

Humbleness is old is gold  
Wjho can know what's old from gold  
Humbleness is old is gold  
Who can know what's old from gold

Hoochy poochy coming in  
Bombs as big as my three chins  
America you expansive land

Bury the money dig up man  
I'm giving my head a rest  
I'm taking it to sleep  
I'm drinking my last glass of wine  
I'm drinking it in deep

When the wind blows tomorrow  
When the rain falls softly down  
You won't see me through the haze  
You won't see me making ground

When you sit by the water  
Looking out to sea  
You will be looking to another  
You won't be thinking of me

But let the rain fall or the wind blow  
Let the gulls cry overhead  
My heart without you will be empty  
So will be my bed

I'm giving my head a rest  
I'm taking it to sleep  
I'm drinking my last glass of wine  
I'm drinking it in deep

The lady is pregnant  
The other compromised  
The sky is full of aeroplanes  
The money's in a pile  
The man with the community  
Sitting on his head  
Is out working miracles  
With words that have already bled

The coffee's turned sour  
The jar was too full  
The moon's made a werewolf  
Of Mr Magoo  
A child with a beer is tipping in peace  
When Mr Magoo  
Puts a boot in her teeth

A poem on a paper is lying unseen  
It speaks of compassion  
Of wisdom and dreams  
It's stepped on by two hundred  
People a day  
Then is stuffed in the garbage  
Call it part of the play

A three times as big  
As the last tidal wave  
Approaches the island

Who will be saved  
The dirt's washed away  
The goodies remain  
They sit around the table  
And nobody complains

Don't sigh even slightly  
Your heart might fall  
If I should ever lose you  
I'd lose all

Wings don't make the bird  
Without the song  
My song will go unheard  
While you're gone

Don't cry even one tear  
I'd hear it fall  
I was meant to  
Dry them all

Don't doubt for a moment  
I'll be true  
Each hour apart will bring me  
Nearer to you

Wings don't make the bird  
Without the song  
My song will go unheard  
While you're gone

I took a walk the other evening  
To see my so called friends  
But not a door would open  
And not a soul would bend

I stood outside a while  
Then turned and made for home  
If giving what you have  
Isn't needed you're alone

For you can't get through  
When no wants you to  
You can't get through  
When you're trying to

I lay on my bed that night  
And thought about the way  
My life seemed to be leading me  
I awoke to another day

I realized that giving  
Is demanding and is vain  
And I hope when I grow up  
I'll never try too hard again

The thorn of DNA  
Plucks at her side  
The barb of hereditary  
Sticks her to the slide  
The narrow of her experience  
Icicles her mind  
Yet she still has the gall  
To be kind kind kind

Silent voices sit in silent heart's decline  
Feet turn up with tremors of unrealized decline  
Minds work with words that are too weary to be heard  
Faces are a miracle of animation spared

Meanwhile care flies free-winged through the window  
Catching at a shadow of a lost leaf on the lawn  
Five hundred robins hop around for one worm  
Many people bandage a body crudely torn

It's one of those dark nights  
The light won't travel far  
As all the stars are hidden  
You will be my star

I'm thinking of you  
You are right for me  
All day I've been thinking  
I wish you were here

The wind down the inlet  
Is cold blowing wild  
The swing in the garden  
Won't carry a child

The grass has been mown  
For the last time this fall  
The flowers are dying  
Not much sun anymore

The rain on the window  
The tears of the sky  
Cry me to sleep  
With a sad lullaby

The dawn breaks my sleeping  
The wind has calmed down  
My longing for you

Makes a gentler sound  
I'll take the house with the windows  
Which overlook the sea  
I'll take it with pleasure  
As a gift from you to me

And when the sea gets rough  
And the moon doesn't shine  
I'll take the house with you in it  
To help me pass the time

We will sit by the fire  
And talk of sea and shore  
Of pebbles and of agates  
Of the wind and rain no more

We will drink a little whisky  
And drink a little more  
I will pour you one enormous glass  
As you glance towards the door

When midnight's but a breath away  
The fire burning low  
I'll plead with you to share my bed  
And you'll refuse to go

I'll take the house with the windows  
Which overlook the sea  
I'll take it with pleasure

As a gift from you to me  
When I first took her hand  
She was holding a knife  
The blade cut my flesh  
But left me with life

I did as I could  
I didn't do much  
I thought of the one  
With the Saracen touch

I gave her my trust  
With a need to be heard  
She killed me one day  
With a wine bottle shared

With a wizard of words  
Devoid of a soul  
Who got what she gave  
Without reaching his goal

I bled for a while  
Then bandaged the hurt  
With a lover of sin  
A dealer in dirt

When I next took her hand  
She was holding a spade  
She wasted no time

And dug me a grave  
She shoveled me in  
I cried to her there  
Give me one more chance  
This time I'll be fair

I'll leave you alone  
But don't leave me here  
Its cold as the ice  
And the darkness I fear

She gave me the chance  
I ran from her sight  
And lived in the shade  
Of an actresses light

The third time I met her  
She stretched out a hand  
I saw it was empty  
I could not understand

She told me the story  
Of how she had been  
Broke and then broken  
By an underhand queen

It didn't last long  
She soon found her feet  
And left me one night

For a boxer with teeth  
The fourth time I met her  
She was dead as a nail  
Shot by the wife of  
A seeker of tail

The boxer and wizard  
Stood by the grave  
I watched from the trees  
Too spent to be brave

As they lowered the body  
A hand broke the wood  
And a sweet voice cried save me  
I will be good

The boxer and wizard  
Fought for her hand  
I waited patiently  
Surveying the land

They fell down exhausted  
No one had won  
I stepped forward cautiously  
To join in the fun

I took hold of her hand  
For a nostalgic while  
And prayed for the one

With fate on her side  
Then fate played his last trick  
And gave her the means  
To push wide the coffin  
And exit with ease

She disappeared running  
In white flimsy gown  
Over the graveyard  
Down through the town  
The others ran chasing  
A few feet behind  
But wherever they went  
They never did find

I lay on the grass  
And soaked in the sun  
Recalling the saying  
What is done is done

I do not regret  
And I do not forget  
But thank God it's all over  
And the grass isn't wet

The play is by a pauper  
Purple in his gown  
Feeling for the heavens  
But finding only ground

The scene is a graveyard  
Of hollow limbs and heads  
And on it walks a woman  
Picking berries red

Her legs are torn with bramble thorns  
Her broken voice says there  
I see the fish the whale the bear  
How perfect she declares

A spirit from another world  
Is angry at the sight  
He takes her foot with graying hands  
And yanks her into flight

A nine foot man in black and white  
Stands by the sea and grins  
Hecate has got her  
Go back home survey your sins

The engine of a nearby car  
Roars without the key  
It moves with speed driverless

Headlong to the sea  
A raft of fire upon the waves  
Is seen to sail the tide  
The lady spirit nine foot man  
Stand there with feet astride

The lady wears a wedding ring  
A dress of blue and gold  
The spirit has her by the waist  
Will not release his hold

Back on the shore in lines of three  
People kneel and pray  
When suddenly a miracle  
Upturns the morbid day

A killer whale turned gentle  
By God's almighty hand  
Rescues and delivers her  
Unharmd upon the sand

A cry of joy is heard by all  
And as they join in dance  
A single Pentecostal voice claims  
Nothing's left to chance

So if upon a raft you float  
Burning out to sea  
Remember to believe in God

And a whale will set you free  
There's a moon over Masset  
A coldness in the sea  
There's a wind blowing south east  
And a bird shaped like a tree

There's a tide coming this way  
And a crane calling by  
There's an eagle despising  
The white man's narrow cry

There's autumn in the summer  
The sun shines as the leaves  
Fall on empty lawns  
On a day like this you left me

I meant to make it good  
I failed to make it real  
There's a moon over Masset  
And a coldness in the sea

Love gone died in last night's wind storm  
Words lie smothered on the floor  
Nightmare dreams disturbing sleeping  
Morning pinned to the swinging door

Tired feet moving outside  
Last line hope a distant star  
Fast cars splashing disappearing  
Destination one step too far

Courtesy a two edged knife blade  
Solitude a one man shame  
Sympathy a lost endeavour  
Understanding breeding pain

I walked out one morning  
Needing to find  
A quiet place where I could trace  
The lost thoughts of my mind

I found a tree along the beach  
Shaped like a chair and out of reach  
I leaned my back against the wood  
And used my eyes to search for good

A seagull rested in the wind  
A fishing boat going home did sing  
A cloud moved one inch in the sky  
And let the sun spread clear and wide

You came to me across the sand  
And in your both hands took my hand  
We talked together child to child  
Until we'd learned again to smile

I don't want to see you again  
This time I mean it  
There is too much pain  
You always leave me standing  
In the pissing down rain  
Feeling like a failure  
Feeling nothing but shame

And it's all coming back like a bad bad bad bad dream  
I have asked you so many times to cut me off clean  
Then leave me to heal as best I could  
But you've always come back to squeeze a drop more  
blood

It'll all disappear one day in a flood  
Like a package in a small boat sailing out to sea  
I'll watch it go on an easy tide  
And before I've had the time to say goodbye  
I'll be free

Taking it down  
To where I don't count  
Feeling around  
Till I've found the fount  
Nothing there  
But a strand of hair  
A memory or two  
Without you despair

Suddenly coming  
To a slow moving stream  
Bathing my eyes  
Till the vision is clear  
There in the grass  
A single ant  
Dropped from the crowd  
Lost in the sand

Turned my eyes  
To see in the sky  
A wild goose cry  
For its mate which had died  
Heard a shot  
And held my head  
The fount was blood  
And I was dead

But then before  
I soak away  
I kneel with the ant and the goose  
And I pray

The river's running fast  
I'm waiting for the boat  
That will sail this way and save me  
Till the storm has passed

The sky seems to be falling  
The land rises in pain  
The trees are broken by the wind  
I think they'll grow again

Give me your hand  
Help me on board  
I'm here because I loved you  
Like I've never loved before

That place with the sun  
I see it with my soul  
I'll know it without longing  
When the storm is done

I'm working against time Mr Moon Mr Moon  
I'm working against time Mr Moon  
It's chasing me around I don't know where I can be  
found  
I'm working against time Mr Moon.

I'm working against money Mr Moon Mr Moon  
I'm working against money Mr Moon  
It began when I was born and each day from sunrise to  
dawn  
I'm working against money Mr Moon

I had something to give Mr Moon Mr Moon  
I had something to give Mr Moon  
But whenever I tried to give something always died  
I had something to give Mr Moon

I've lost all I had Mr Moon Mr Moon  
I've lost all I had Mr Moon  
My old dreams are gone when I was down it didn't take  
long  
I've lost all I had Mr Moon

There's a sun shines everyday Mr Moon Mr Moon  
There's a sun shines everyday Mr Moon  
You can see him in your sky but I don't see him in  
mine  
There's a sun shines everyday Mr Moon

I'm hoping for a change Mr Moon Mr Moon  
I'm hoping for a change Mr Moon  
It can't go on the same I know I'm partly to blame  
I'm hoping for a change Mr Moon

When I get up tomorrow  
It won't be like today  
I'm going to give up being greedy  
I'm going to go my selfish way

What I do may bring you sorrow  
But I won't mean it I say  
What I do may bring you sorrow  
But I don't mean it anyway

When I go I'll go early  
I won't disturb your sleep  
I'll leave without a murmur  
What I'm sowing I will reap

There is nothing left between us  
You know it as I do  
I wish we could have made it stick together  
Without glue

I've let you go  
You're sailing down the stream that no one knows  
I've purged you from my soul  
I'm both glad and sad to see you go

I stood by the water side and reached out  
But I didn't reach too far and neither did you  
You didn't even shout

Save me from the days ahead of nostalgic moods and  
fears of empty beds  
Save me from the lie of writing and pleading with you  
to come back home and give it one more try

We cried the tears we should in a situation like this  
Put our mouths together in a parody of lost bliss  
We said the words that we both thought that we  
should say  
Whilst all the time felt the rhyme of a new and hopeful  
day

I've let you go

Lie awhile longer my love  
Lie awhile with me  
Rest your head on my breast  
Close your eyes and sleep

Yesterday the rain came down  
Today the sun almost shone  
Tomorrow who knows what will be  
When you're gone from me  
When you've gone

Come little fuzzy face  
I said to the dog  
Let's pretend that we're happy today  
And we walked down to the sea  
Tears streaming from our eyes  
Because you had failed to come for tea

You once loved my dog  
As you once loved me  
But we got left behind  
When you went to look for jollity

We didn't have enough  
To fill your cup  
We didn't have the stuff  
To feed your fantasy

That kind of loneliness  
That goes through you  
Like an ache

That gets you  
Talking to yourself  
That has you ready for bed  
At eight

That is sitting on your head  
When you wake  
That gnaws on through  
The afternoon

That switches you off  
When you switch off the evening news

That's the kind  
I have  
Since I lost you

Animals lovely animals  
Pulling sledges  
Walking through water  
Giving carriage and comfort

Giving fur coats  
Fur shoes  
Warmth to the man  
Of the thick skin

When the nose blows  
When the snows blow  
I aim to be a hedgehog  
In a hedge row

This thing called self  
Has no center  
Or no edges

I am part of the twig  
On the tree outside  
I am melted into  
The bird on the branch

I am the sky  
And the inside  
Of my house

I am nothing today  
As I write this  
I fear  
The writing

If I am nothing today  
Perhaps I'll be the start  
Of something  
Tomorrow

Ambition  
Burrows in me  
Like a rabbit

I pushed it underground  
When I first opened my moth  
To discover  
I couldn't make the appropriate sound

That would bring  
Approval  
That would bring  
Admiration  
That would bring  
Applause

So when you succeed  
When I think you should be home  
To give the little rabbit a feed  
I bleed

When it dawned on me  
With clarity  
That the grass was green  
That the window was white

I became the bird  
That sat outside  
On a budding branch  
And was heard

There was no further to go  
For the moment so  
I decided to silently  
Watch the sky  
Until sunrise

When the grass might be white  
The window red  
The branch a bullet  
The old bird dead

It was the baby  
In the bonnet  
In the pram  
Wrote the sonnet for you

Accompanied by the rattle  
Of the snake  
When you failed  
To come through

The hedge  
To take the handle  
And turn me  
Once more to the sun

I'll turn you over  
If I have to  
To the sheriff  
When you tell me we're done

You're a fool if you think  
I'll understand all  
You can say about how life should be  
When you know I'm no good at thinking at all  
That I just barely trust  
What I think about me

But if you must keep telling me  
Tell me from a distance  
If it's worth the trouble  
It should survive the travel

And if you need to give advice  
Take care before you give it  
If it's good enough for me  
You might need it for yourself

I'm feeling lost  
Bring me home  
A word might do  
It wouldn't need  
To be too strong

You know the path  
You are the way  
In light or darkness  
With you only  
I can be safe

If you'd let some of that heat  
That lies in your body  
Get into your eyes

And shine for me  
And shine for me  
And shine for me  
And shine for me

I'm feeling lost  
Bring me home

The blood of the turkey  
Soaks into the green grass  
Into the dark earth  
Into the dark stones

Its cries are heard  
Squealing through the trees  
Through the fields  
Onto the hill

Death exhausted  
Sobbing  
Under the damp sky  
Listening

The knife  
Crunching  
Into the bone  
The blank eye  
At Christmas time

No doubt you'll write it  
As you see it  
And you'll still not  
Understand

Because the hand you say  
You reach out with  
Is really not a hand

And it can't touch  
Because the soul behind  
The touch  
Has not been touched

And what we thought  
We'd come in contact with  
Was really just a foot

And the body  
And the body  
And the body  
Left the soul  
In embryonic  
Coldness  
Till the soul  
Grew cold

Running over  
Running over  
My cups full and running over

I could keep on pouring all of me  
Into you  
But I would never fill you up  
Never fill you up  
Never fill you up

It has nothing to do  
With how much love I have for you  
You've got an emotional hole  
In your shoe

I don't believe you care  
It's hard to believe  
When I see you standing grinning  
On that nearby hill

With a flower in your hair  
With a woman in your hand  
With a kiss with a kiss  
In your eyes

The cat lying sleeping at your feet  
Is another cheat  
Real cats don't sleep  
Beneath clumsy feet

That moon in the blue pastel sky  
Might make your heart turn round  
with desire  
It sends a fire of rejection  
Through my brain

To stumble down the path  
In the dusk is nothing new  
For old cut feet  
In empty shoes

It's all very merry  
To be delving into stockings  
That hung beside the chimneys  
Of your past

Pulling up trinkets  
That shimmer in the darkness  
Or cut with a sharp edge  
Like glass

Here  
In the harsh light  
Of winter  
I lick the blood  
From your bleeding  
Hand

Stare at your eyes  
Looking for the present  
I wanted to give  
At Christmas time

Surely no it could not happen  
Love is not so quickly gone  
I only got it yesterday  
At one p.m.

But there I see a shadow on the wall  
Reminding me of how you naked  
Stood before the lamp which threw you  
Large and looming from the floor  
Up against the window  
There for all to see

I see you now in black and green  
Magnificent in polo neck  
Leaning on the chemist's  
At the bottom of the street

I see you now in conversation  
Deep and stimulating  
Casting on my narrow world  
A breath of finer things

I see you now with glass in hand  
Theorizing and proclaiming  
Truths with T's so large my vision  
Cracked before my eyes

I see you now the bottle empty  
Raincoat wrongly buttoned up  
Leaving by the back door calling  
Thank you very much

I've had my fill of musical evenings  
Delicate dishes and instructive films  
I've had my fill of intelligent conversation  
About poetry and acupuncture palmistry and pills

I've had my fill of safaris up back lanes  
Seeking a domain that disappeared in the spring  
I've had my fill of conjecturing on a relationship  
About which I do not know anything

You were rejected  
It happens every time  
Two people don't make it  
One is left behind to weep

I'm ready to weep  
For you when you're ready  
I'm ready to weep for you when you've ceased  
To weep for yourself  
For then you'll be ready  
To leave me behind to weep

You'll like it at  
The water works  
There's water there  
Like a lake

When the sun is high  
I'll hide the sky  
With kisses  
To your eyes

We'll fly off into leaves  
And lie in pools  
Of lovely sunlight  
Sigh along with the wind  
And find ourselves again  
Perhaps

You'll like it at  
The water works  
There's water there  
Like a lake

You've a poetic quality  
Beyond definition  
A sort of lost reality  
Without intuition  
I know you're a liar

With intention you make nonsense  
Of convention and besides  
You're an artist with a big A  
More or less

You're a bum with a B  
You're as selfish as the rest  
And you waste by inclination  
What you've got

You've only one card on the table  
Worthy of attention  
But you don't know how to play it  
With conviction yet

You're in love with temptation  
In the wings with sensation  
On the surface you say love  
With a big L is beyond recognition  
While you keep on looking  
And waste by inclination what you've got

You've a poetic quality  
Avoiding direction  
A sort of amorality  
Denying integration  
You've genius  
But don't know how  
To use it with conviction  
You've a quality poetic  
But you waste  
By inclination  
What you've got

When you come home  
You'll find on the wall  
A mural  
In black and white  
That's all  
Don't get upset  
I couldn't get it done  
Just like I wanted it done

Did you have a good day  
On the avenue birds  
Were playing tunes  
It's a long long way to understanding (2)  
Don't be perturbed  
I don't fair too well  
Just like I want to be fair

Black goes very well with the carpet  
Saw a man really black yesterday  
In the market  
White goes very well with the ceiling  
Saw a woman really white yesterday  
She was peeling

Did you have a good day  
On the avenue birds  
Were playing tunes  
It's a long long way to understanding

Don't go away again  
I can't get on  
Just like I want to alone

Blunt face man  
Sitting watching  
Television  
Paper on the floor  
She's in the kitchen  
Cooking  
As she did last week  
Last year  
And the year before

Green eyed woman  
Waiting for the kettle  
Washing up the dishes  
He's in the other room  
Sleeping  
As he did last week  
Last year  
And the year before

Self same man  
Standing by the fire  
Pyjamaas on the chair  
She's at the dressing table  
Combing her hair  
As she did last week  
Last year  
And the year before

Self same woman  
Turning down the bed  
Setting the alarm clock  
He's with a cigarette  
Locking up  
As he did last week  
Last year  
And the year before

Two people lying  
Looking at the ceiling  
Waiting for sleep  
Turn back to back wondering  
As they did last week  
Last year  
And the year before

I look you look see what I see  
Moonlight moon beams coming through the lime tree  
Lime tree Fine tree  
Out tree Side tree  
See things easily from my bed

I sleep  
You sleep  
I dream  
You dream  
I wake  
You wake  
I'm safe  
You're safe

I look you look see what I see  
Moonlight moon beams coming through the lime tree  
Lime tree Fine tree  
Out tree Side tree  
See things easily from my bed

I smile  
You smile  
I rise  
You rise  
I find  
You find  
I'm yours

You're mine  
I look you look see what I see  
I love you love you love love me

Walking talking  
Under the trees  
Across the pavement  
You and me  
Dreaming wishes  
Holding hands  
We'll have a song  
Whenever we can

Sitting thinking  
By the fire  
You and me  
Burning higher  
All in the head  
Up through the sky  
We'll have a song  
Whenever we fly

Eating leaping  
Into bed  
Over the rubicon  
We'll be wed  
Wearing rings  
And bells on our toes  
We'll have a song  
Whenever we go

Making breaking  
Under the moon  
The night ran away  
With a silver spoon

The whole world laughed  
To see such fun  
But we'll have a song  
When the day is done

Took you down sailing  
On the bark of a tree  
Took you down the river  
To the dark of the sea  
Took you by the light  
Of the lights of the bank  
Reflected in the water  
And the water sang

And you opened your eyes  
And you opened your ears  
As we drifted with the tide  
Without a fear

Out at sea  
The light of the morning  
Shone on the water  
And came up warming  
The air all around

It's very much but not enough love you give me  
You sip the wine you take your ease  
You never show that you need me  
But I know underneath  
You glow underneath  
I can keep  
I won't weep  
I'll play you sweetly

Its very late but not enough late when you get up go to  
leave me  
With a look of surprise  
If I try to keep you near me  
I know underneath  
You glow underneath  
I have the time  
To choose my line  
I'll play you sweetly

I can be proud but not enough proud I'd do all to have  
you for me  
On my knees I would say please  
I could scream  
Don't you know you need me  
Don't you know you need me

But as I know underneath  
You glow underneath  
I won't be wild  
More like a child  
I'll play you sweetly

I want to live forever with you  
Nothing else will do  
I'd plan I can  
I'm Santa Claus I'm yours

I give you a present on my knees  
I give you a ring I'm very pleased  
To give you anything  
Your heart desires

I'm singing a song tho' I can't sing  
I'm reaching the sky tho' I can't fly  
I'm making it right  
Tho' I am usually wrong

Nothing remains the same it's a shame  
Joy one day is pain the next  
The rest of the world appears to cope  
And it does if I don't look too close

I want to live forever with you  
Nothing else will do  
I'd plan I can  
I'm Santa Claus I'm yours

You do know me  
You do show me  
You do hold me in yourself  
And help me sleep

You do take me  
You do break me  
You do make me weep  
As the clouds weep the rain

Still I love you  
Will ever love you  
Till every other child  
Has left the game

The crude alone just call it home  
Got it soon and soon it's ended  
Take it with me never fails  
Wish I could remove those long brass nails

I see the lid of a self built hole  
I hear me groaning soft and low  
Feel the earth as it thuds down fast  
What made me think the sky would last

Got to do it now  
Tho now's too late  
Now is the sister of tomorrow's date  
Got to do it soon  
Tho soon takes long  
Soon is the sister of tomorrow's song

Tomorrow's song sings sweetly to me  
It promises to be what I want it to be  
Tomorrow's song sings sweetly to me  
It promises to be what I want it to be

The message is coming through in code  
Clear my ears with a dull electrode  
Crack the void with feet of stone  
And thunder through the crude alone

I sure would like to see you again  
I've been away for a long lonely time  
Living on the Charlottes off the North Pacific Coast  
Living a clean life with only you in mind

When summer came I thought I'd leave by way of  
Mexico  
And return with a thick brown tan  
But instead I found Tlell between the river and the sea  
And I'm exercising daily on the sand

I've been eating Dolly Vardens with a friend who keeps  
a garden  
Of lettuces and carrots and raccoons  
And I got myself a cat just a week or two ago  
And it's growing up beautiful and fat

There's a Frenchman round the corner with a strong  
healthy hand  
Who comes to light my lamp and pass the time  
He's fixed my fishing rod and tho' I haven't caught a  
fish  
I'm glad because I'd hate to see one die

Well that's about it all as I was telling you before  
Although I'm not against repeating what I've said  
I hope I can survive to see you there alive  
When I get back home by way of Mexico

Well here I am again  
Writing to you in the rain  
The sun has not shone now  
For three straight days

I continue to keep fit  
I drink a little bit  
And I still haven't caught  
A single fish

Well really that's a lie  
I caught one one inch wide  
Then put it back again  
I saw it smile

It swam into the tide  
Then turned back for a while  
I bet you didn't know  
That fish can smile

I haven't read this over  
To check for mistakes  
But I hope the message  
Will get through

All I really want to say  
Is I'm living day to day  
And I'm thinking

Almost constantly of you  
Rock a bye baby  
Head in a cloud  
Don't look now  
But the blanket's a shroud

An electric saw  
Is raping the trees  
Mummy and Daddy  
Eat afternoon tea

The penis proud villain  
Is laying his mind  
On a barbed wire fence  
Blown out of line

A swaggering Scotsman  
On rheumatic knees  
Is traversing the water  
Searching for fleas

A big mouth from Texas  
Is shovelling dirt  
Into the head  
Of a once wedded skirt

The buzzer's persistent  
A night saunters in  
Duels the shuffleboard

Castigates sin  
A shrewd blue-eyed pilot  
Reaches for love  
And grasps a limp bodiless  
No handed glove

An enemy plane  
By mock fate flying low  
Shatters the scene  
With computerised snow

For she comes with a bottle in her hand  
Humpty Dumpty mended and a band  
Which follows but a few steps away  
Is playing God save anyone today

And her smile brings a calm to the ocean's wild roar  
And she laughs like the stream on the stream's pebbled  
floor  
And her words make the day like the gold of the corn  
Which is washed by the rain by the sun is made warm

Then she goes with a bottle in her head  
To slumber in an unresponsive bed  
While the band turns into a violin  
And sweetly lets the morning in

Hello Christ  
You look good tonight  
I was hoping you might  
Put some new line  
Into my life

When people cry  
As they do  
And I feel a tear  
In my own eye  
I remember you

When it has gone  
And I know the sun  
Can still shine  
I'm singing  
After all  
It takes a lot to beat a song

Shall we go to Mexico  
Shall we take it easy oh  
Shall we lie beneath the sky  
Thinking of the winter oh

Say you feel the need of sun  
Say you feel the need of me  
Say you feel the need of sun  
Melting you inside me oh

We'll take a train to San Francisco  
Santa Barbara and El Paso  
Take a bus out to the coast  
Then make for the city when we roast

I will buy a new guitar  
A beautiful in tune guitar  
I'll play it when the day is cool  
You'll hear me from the swimming pool

I'll play it from the balcony  
You'll leave the water just to be  
By my side look in my eyes  
Melting you inside me oh

The mountain can be very high  
The river can be wide  
The sky can be a mile away  
With clouds on every side

The dark comes at night time  
The wind blows cold and long  
The switch on the wall is hard to find  
When there's no one to see when the light goes on

The morning brings a new day  
The new day brings the light  
But the light of the day can be hard to take  
When there's been no one there to share the night

Look me in the eyes my honey  
Find the light that therein lies  
Take me in your arms my honey  
Bring me home again alive

I'll look in your eyes my honey  
Find the light that therein lies  
Take you in my arms my honey  
Bring you home again alive

We were one and will be once more  
We were one and will again  
Be as one one with the other  
And together will remain

Naked as the day I was born  
Waking in the morning with the birds at dawn  
Down by the sea shore taking of the air  
Warm with the early morning sun and with you there

Where would I be if I weren't with you  
I'd be nowhere and you know that's true

Only need to look in your eyes and I'm smiling  
No need to talk or try to be beguiling  
Lie down awhile make love in the soft sand  
Swim in the sea not leaving hold of your hand

Sleep comes late when the sun has fallen  
With wide eyed beauty over the horizon  
Our blanket the stars and the midnight sky  
While the smoke from the fire curls around us and dies

Pull the shades down  
The views un-nerving  
Restless sky and wild birds swerving  
Crowds of vapid voices herding  
Into drums of acid learning

Sorrow waits as your soul's gate  
Hand in hand with love turned hate

Bolt the doors the world's intruding  
Withered limbs dry mouths curling  
Empty hands black eyes turning  
Up to clouds stripped and burning

Cut the lights heaven's blinding  
Peaceful souls torn undeserving  
Bibles broken chapters wearing  
Gowns of sordid tinsel glaring

Drown the doubting come up giving  
Hell's a torment for the living  
Bend its back with love your sorrow  
Will still be grinning strong tomorrow

Stay the night bed screams with pleasure  
Falsely promising new treasure  
Bodies winter well in heat  
But hearts can only know defeat

Knock knock  
Come in the door  
The scores at nothing  
Or maybe more  
Find a bed  
There to sleep  
Life is long  
And love won't keep

Who's in the kitchen  
I was first  
Want to play mother  
Don't be hurt  
A knife in the hand  
Cream on your face  
I'll have you later  
Tonight  
I'm strange

Chicken and cheese  
Candles bright  
Look in the window  
Isn't it nice  
Fight your flight  
Talk my sweet  
The cows in the meadow  
With muddy feet

Catch a trout  
Get a hold  
Fell in the river  
On my nose  
Is it broke  
Just a crack  
Paper it up  
What a laugh

Who's who  
What's nowt  
Bury it deep  
Dig in the doubt  
Hang your heart  
On a willow tree  
Take it down  
It hasn't been seen

Who's in the bed  
Oh its you  
Hello hot bottle  
And goodbye too  
Give it a rest  
Your head of course  
Love does keep  
And life is short

My love is velvet like the darkness  
My love has eyes like the deep of the sea  
My love has a smile as wide as a wide moon  
My love is my love and my love loves me

Fine as the gossamer moving in the soft wind  
Fine as the web he weaves round my heart  
Fine as a dew drop melting in a moment  
Fine as the knowing we will never part

My love flies on the breeze of the morning  
My love sails on the afternoon light  
My love rides on the rainbow of the evening  
Only comes to rest with me by her side

This dirty place  
With muck on the streets  
Garbled new buildings  
And fast roads

This depressed city  
Where deceit sits comfortably  
On pub faces  
And rejected girls sit uncomfortably  
By the telephone or the television

Weak runts with books in their heads  
Screw themselves out of humanity  
And talk with long slow words  
About stoicism and reality

Fifty year old women die of obsessions

This example of man's greed  
Putting incomplete brains into incomplete sheds  
Of fire and black air  
With stone hutches as homes

This fucking depressed city  
This dirty place  
Is laying its filth  
On everybody's face

La bonne fee n'arrive pas today  
The paper came  
The rain came  
The evening came  
What a shame  
La bonne fee n'arrive pas today  
What a shame

Bare footed through my tranquil mind  
You are stepping so you say with care  
You suggested we attend the ball together  
Then left before you told me how we'd get there

The ugliness my sister is increasing  
The message is self consciousness will reign  
Yesterday I did believe you'd find something to fit me  
Today I think my wishes were in vain

Wrapping the end with the beginning  
Can save disillusion at the last  
Shoes never fit unless like Cinderella  
The shoe was your own at the start

Birds have so much sky to move in  
One flew past my bed this morning  
My heart is soaring to you  
Will you catch me when I'm falling

You are my precious darling  
I pray I do you no harm  
If I could be a bird  
Into you I would be soaring

God bless you  
And God bless me  
Let our giving  
Be receiving  
Let our spirits  
Weave together  
Grow in wisdom  
And in meaning

You have so much space within you  
I can reach a deepest corner  
Fly beside you safe and easy  
You can plumb me like Jack Horner

No matter what I say  
No matter what I do  
You play the same tune on the piano  
Of your open windowed room

As the melody flows out  
Across the lawn above the trees  
The upstairs room contains a woman  
Who weeps

On the warm summer pavement  
Lies the blossom of spring  
Moving in circles  
With the wind

The scent of the flowers  
Rises after rain into the air  
Catches on a melody  
To enter the ear  
Like a soft cry of despair

Seeking a soul connection  
I came upon a wooden mickey mouse  
Sitting up high on a soul stone  
With his foot stuck out

Long green grass grew all around the stone  
The sky behind was white  
A view of the sea after one more step  
Would surely be in sight

I hailed him God Almighty  
That was a thought that needed a voice  
He bowed from the waist and said darling  
You've made a good choice

He will take his place  
On the golden hill  
Where she puts him  
He will take his fill

Of the dancing light  
From a romantic moon

Like a fawn  
Through the damp dark grass  
He will move naked  
Into the center of the universe

With a yawn  
She will turn from the woman  
With the broken eye  
Before the sun can rise again  
To warm one last cold stone

Maybe I am crazy  
Maybe I am crazy  
To go on trying  
Trying to love you

Maybe I'll stop now  
Maybe I'll stop now  
I've fallen through  
The bottom of my shoe

Maybe I'll lie here  
Maybe I'll lie here  
From now on  
Through my teeth

Maybe I'll grow again  
Maybe I'll grow again  
With feet that can keep me  
On my feet

Maybe I'll sink now  
Maybe I'll sink  
So low down  
I'll be underneath

As you slowly grasped  
The nettle of your own desire  
Felt the sting of your own exquisite  
Selfishness

You have torn  
The plaster of disguise  
From your heart  
To reveal that you despise

Open ness  
Vulnerability  
And the sacrifice of stubbornness and pride  
In the pursuit of tenderness

And I wonder  
Why  
I've felt so  
Hurt  
And why  
I've died

Rocketing crashing  
Splashes in the dark sky  
Light up the dark leaves  
Moon up a half size

Over a building  
Working on you  
Has roughened my heart  
Die in the night dew

Walking the long grass  
Crossing the big fields  
Making for windows  
Paradise in your eyes

Rest in a soft kiss  
Gentle as one cell  
Touching another  
Held fast in loves hell

Do you know what I nearly did  
Nearly stopped talking  
About what I should be doing  
Nearly did  
What I said I should be doing

Could have set the world on fire  
But sat by it instead  
Could have reached the stars  
But wished on them instead  
Could have been good  
But was too good at being bad  
Could have been happy  
But it was too easy  
To be sad

It was never much good  
Oh I admit we had our moments  
They were rarely convincing  
If you think back it's important

Tho from now on that we try to see  
As clearly as we can that to be  
Free from each other  
Might be a sweet relief

I keep shouting at you  
The bonds between us still hurt  
When you pull further from me  
When I pull further from you

Yet what other way is left now  
For each of us to move  
A year has passed without a tender word  
Of caring as we used to do

I'm packing up my old belongings  
The notions of a love we thought we had  
I'm handing back to you a parcel badly tied  
I feel so sad I feel so sad

Save me from contrivance  
That's a contrivance  
And that's a contrivance  
Just save me

Save me from myself mostly  
Save me a penny's worth  
Wrapped in a newspaper  
Save me

Wrap me up forever  
Close to a body  
Hold me tight in a cradle  
Rock me baby

Wake me tomorrow  
Wake me now I'm sleeping often  
Too long to see I'm crazy  
Save me

You with your eyes open  
No surprise open  
Tell me of your dreams  
Of no today schemes  
Talk of your loves  
Still to come  
Unsung  
With no me in them

Me with my eyes closed  
Closed on purpose  
To your castles in the air  
While I build me a castle  
Waiting for my day  
When there's no day  
Coming

You with your sacrifice  
Of momentary pleasure  
Planning for the treasure  
Of life that's ahead  
Me with my pathos  
Misguided martyrdom  
Pleading for your love  
When there's no love  
Coming

The cat's out of the bag  
Glad  
On top of a double decker  
Red  
Shouted to the world at large  
This is what I am  
Take it or leave it  
This is me me me

The ball is at your feet  
Big  
Waiting to be kicked  
Thwack  
Back into my mouth hey  
This is what I am  
Take it or leave it  
This is me me me

Truth dare or promise  
Stones  
Are twenty to the dozen  
Hard  
If you have them in your hand  
Man  
You have them in your heart

The gentleman spread marmalade on his toast  
With sticky fingers opened up the morning post  
Drank a cup of tea with his mouth quite empty  
Almost picked his nose then remembered he'd a hanky  
Wiped his mouth with a napkin replaced it in the ring  
Tried to see his wife around the paper she was reading  
Pushed away the chair with the back of his knees and  
said  
Darling tonight I'll be a little late for tea

Your suitcase is packed  
You're leaving him today  
It's only for a holiday  
You don't want to go away  
But you do but you do but you do

Wrapped in your bathrobe  
You lie by a pool  
A dark boy cools you with gin  
You feel too thin to let him in  
But you do but you do but you do

You recline on a shaded bed  
A friend beside you there  
You're burnt black with the sun  
You tighten your hand deciding it's no fun  
But you do but you do but you do

As you're leaving an older man  
Touches you with a flower  
You think you've more to learn  
You are reluctant to return  
But you do but you do but you do

He's waiting at the door  
He's glad to have you home  
You say the weather was beautiful  
And you wish you'd never gone

And you do and you do and you do  
A big tree grew  
On a meadow plain  
Stars dug in at night

A bird sat stuck  
All puffed up close  
The moon was white  
As ice is

Sliced through the middle  
Went one long wind  
Blew with a blow  
Sing song

A warm hearted woman  
Left a fire hot house  
With a warm woolly rug

And wrapped up tight  
The puffed up bird  
That night

Look at me  
With your eyes half closed  
Look at me  
With lechery  
I rose  
When I was young  
To the challenge  
But I've sung in many ways  
And the song I sing is  
Lying in the hammock half asleep

Above the hammock is a tree  
Of beauty tall and green  
It shades the eyes of youth  
And hides me from the free

An eagle in the sky  
Flies high and wide  
I watch its path with calm  
I watch it fly and die

It falls beneath my feet  
And breathes one last soft breath  
Its feathers take the dew  
Upon its breast

The sun obliterates  
Each thought that finds its place  
A miracle up turns  
A smile into my face

I bid you all good day  
Good day  
I bid you all good day  
Whatever else I have to say  
I say  
In my room I do  
I say in my room

In my room I have a cat  
Fancy that I have a cat

I bid my cat go out and roam  
Into the night  
I bid my cat come home again  
A cat needs sleep

I bid you all good day  
Good day  
I bid you all good day  
Whatever else I have to say  
I say  
In my room I do  
I say in my room

Here I am again in Ethiopia  
Kicking up the sand into my eyes  
Staring out blindly through the haze in to the distance  
Milking the mood for another cup of paste

I've got some strange ways  
But you can't grow a flower in the shade  
What was that you said  
You've got an overwhelming need to say sorry  
As you dig me a grave

Oh the desert is a really beautiful place  
If I can stick it this time  
I expect my eyes to clear by sunrise

Oh the desert can be most important at night  
There's nothing to be frightened of here  
We're not as weak as we seem in the middle of the  
night

Here I am again in Ethiopia  
What a day for a journey to begin  
A reasonable wind from the heart of the continent  
Gives me wings

Simply I love you  
I do  
Simply I love you  
That's true

I will be all you expect me to be  
I will see all you expect me to see  
I will go where  
Will be there  
Will despair  
Unless  
Simply you say  
I love you

Will you be full of me  
Next time I see you  
Will you meet me openly  
With love in your eyes

Will you come towards me  
Without hesitation  
Will I be what you desire  
More than anything in life

Or will I only reap again  
The rebound and reaction  
Of your own love rejected  
As you rejected me

Or will I only be  
A pleasant distraction  
If no one better is around  
To keep you company

Will we be full of love  
Next time we see each other  
Will I see it in your eyes  
You will see it in mine

Into my tent  
Bent bosomed friend  
Come place yourself  
This bread I cook  
In my stone oven  
Will be freely given

Toasted on a roasted fire  
Pine wood flavoured  
Crushed with butter  
Marmalade of orange peel  
Sung sharp and sweet

Ground coffee beans  
From brown Brazil  
With honey'd cream  
From yon still cow  
Whose warm and welcoming udders  
Filled my pail

Life reaps happy hours spent  
In summer flowers scented oinks  
Love is a paradise I think  
And with me you will find  
The apple orchard of your youth  
The best there is to be the truth  
Bent bosomed friend is here with me

Don't want to write  
Just want to be in your bed  
Want to kiss your mouth  
Here I'm just as well dead

Think I hear your voice  
Clear in the night  
Saying do not be perturbed  
Everything will be alright

I believe you but the passing  
Of many empty days  
Takes the words in my dream  
Too far away

Kiss this wound  
Oh I implore you  
Kiss this wound  
And I know I'll adore you

But only if you can  
And only if you can  
And only if its easy  
If you can

Eradicate my sins  
With your own self forgiving  
Judge me as kindly  
As you would yourself

Take the monkey from my shoulder  
And give him a mate  
By taking the monkey  
From your own

I am trying to block  
The sadness from my eyes  
And its easy for a while  
Its easy for a while

I can't do it all days  
And the times when I can't  
Are terrible that is my excuse  
For wanting to be in your arms

But that's no real solution  
It certainly helps  
As long as you know I'm using you  
It certainly helps

I'd like to change the atmosphere  
The way man's moving fast  
Down a sliding hill of concrete  
But my effort doesn't last

I can't channel it I don't have  
The strength anymore  
To go out and initiate  
I get lost in what I'm here for

But I could do it sometimes  
And the times when I could  
Would be when I was held secure

In your arms in your love  
But that's no real solution  
It certainly helps  
As long as you know I'm using you  
It certainly helps

Without reaching the depths  
Of your fabulous soul  
I can certainly guess  
You were made to hold  
Some child of misfortune  
Safe to your breast  
To tend to its wounds  
With your tears to bless  
Its sorrows

But before you could find  
The child of your heart  
You were taken apart  
With wounds of your own

To be healed and survive  
You withdrew from life  
And love which is too closely  
Bound up with hurt  
To be right

The walls you've built  
Are substantial I know  
But not too high to climb  
And with your help I will show

Together we'll lay  
Misfortune to rest  
And heal all your wounds  
With tenderness

Without reaching the depths  
Of your fabulous soul  
I can certainly guess  
You were made to hold to me

Bird

I bid you safely fly  
Move gently your wings  
Until the spread  
Is full and wide

Then soar to the heights  
That provide the fresh rays  
Of the sun and move on  
Till your reaching is done

And if you can  
When you have seen all  
Been all you have  
Ever wished to be  
I beg you  
To consider  
A safe resting place  
With me

I rushed to get on your bus  
You crashed into a holly bush  
I didn't mean to wear a crown so soon  
And certainly not for a goon like you

Thank you for the ride tho  
Through you I brought myself low again  
Thank you for the lesson  
I'm not messing with love again tho

You crushed my ego  
You fed on my mind  
You consumed what joy I had  
With an avaricious appetite

You sponged up my tears  
With a stubborn cloth  
You drained my drive  
Not responding to my wrath

So So  
So I say  
Who knows  
I may want to play again tho

As evening is turning  
Its face to the morning  
I'm breathing your name  
To the sky

The picture of you  
I have in my eyes  
Is as beautiful  
As it is wild

You will never convince me  
My search was misguided  
I trusted my heart  
My head was divided  
I've learned not to trust  
In my heart anymore  
While my heart cries for you  
More and more

It would be so easy  
To let me pervade you  
It would be a relief

I would be a fool  
To give in to a moment  
When it's taken me years  
To get free

I've lost my sock  
I've got the shakes  
You've got me making  
Songs again

I'll add it to  
The other few  
That sit upon the shelf  
Of my youth

Is it worth the time to do this  
Lies to bed instead and just kiss  
Are the words which might pass our lips  
Better lost in mouth to mouth bliss

Speaking is a mere confusion  
Making songs one more illusion  
Shining in a not too far star  
Is the place where we are

You are lovely  
You lie like rosy apples  
In my eyes

In your heart I  
See the lightness  
Of a child

I found you this morning in my bed  
I turned to discover you  
Warm from the night  
Like a gift for a new life

For me there are no fresh words  
I'd like to speak to you  
With raw emotion  
In the forests of the earth  
Before man became absurd  
I might have dug you a root  
As a symbol of love  
And you'd have known  
What my love was worth

That child  
With a forehead like yours  
Dances in front of cars  
Like a drunken mime

I watch you  
Patiently stroll the streets  
While she  
Runs up every garden path

Wherever you've been led  
You didn't go aimlessly  
You give the impression  
Of being in control

If not of yourself  
Then of your glass  
Or of a cigarette  
Or of me perhaps

To swoon into your arms  
Into your bed  
In sweet repose  
Would be my dearest wish

To lie there like a dying bird  
Returned from having flown  
Its long last journey  
From the wind and cold

Instead I'm dead already  
From the narrowness of selfish aims  
From the fear of reaching out with joy  
Into the space of life  
And its divine unknown

Yet not me dead  
Nor dying but  
My love for you  
I watch it with regret  
But this time make no move

It would be impertinent  
(To use your word)  
To say I miss you

When I spent  
Your last few days  
Trying to do just that

Miss you I mean  
I really miss you

Miss you I mean  
I really miss you

What happens after a while  
You stop crying out  
You cry inside

Occasionally a shout  
That cannot be contained  
Escapes without consent  
An exclamation of repressed pain

Mostly the murmur grows  
A state of subdued confusion  
A classical retreat  
Into selective illusion

Passion declines  
Was it only appropriate in bed  
Apathy resides  
Like a thick woollen rug packed inside your head

What happens after a while  
You stop dying of life  
You die of dead

What have you done  
With last night's fun  
Did it fall down  
Or spin around

Inside your brain  
Its rain again  
Its soaked my clothes  
And wet my nose

I thought I'd phone  
To send a kiss  
I wish I wish  
I wish I wish

The clothes rope broke  
I picked it up  
A white cloud passed  
Puff puff puff puff

A pig got stuck  
Straight up in mud  
I mustn't forget  
The kind of love  
You love

The doll is falling over  
I'd like to pick it up  
But if I do the weight of her  
Might push me in the mud

The mud is very thick today  
It once stuck in my eyes  
Mud is very difficult  
To get out of your eyes

She doesn't cry for help  
She's staring into space  
It would be easier to help  
If she could see my face

She's pretending it's a game  
That any minute now  
She'll casually straighten up  
And walk right off the cloud

The doll is doing somersaults  
I got it wrong again  
I think I'd make a lovely pie  
If she would stop the rain

The doll is back upon the shelf  
I'd like to get up there  
I'd make it too if I could find

A ladder in the air  
When you informed me  
You'd been dismantling me  
For weeks  
I was in pieces  
From trying to understand  
Why I felt dismantled

The strange co-incident was  
The crane out the back  
Was being taken apart  
In the fog  
And the dog  
Was upset  
That I was weeping  
While I wept

The flesh tearing roses  
You so sweetly gave me  
Have caused me to bleed  
As I weep

There have been enough tears  
It would be better I think  
For you never again  
To come here

Out of the chaos  
Comes the colonel  
With the big stick of order  
In his hand

I am leaning on custard  
You say its supportive  
I do want to trust you  
Am I being awkward again

Trusting and believing  
To achieve their full meaning  
Must be locked with conviction  
In the palm of your hand

There are so many reasons  
For you to be there  
Drinking in the meadows  
On a white garden chair

Laughing with friends  
With the sun in your eyes  
With the words spilling out  
Like champagne to the skies

There are so many reasons  
For you to be free  
Unhindered by me  
Or by me or by me

There are so many reasons  
For me to be sad  
And no reasons at all  
For me to be glad

So I had dreams  
So what  
So I held onto them  
Even when it became obvious  
That it was not likely  
They'd ever come true

Something in me  
Put a stop  
To that

Occasionally  
When I heard  
A saxophone  
Bleating out  
A sentimental tune  
A memory  
Of the old dreams  
I'd lost  
Would get through

Mostly  
If I can remember it true  
The main dream  
Was two chairs  
By a large fire  
Eyes meeting  
Books open

Bed soon  
Softly along the summer shore  
A wave conceals the sand  
And is no more

Gentle wind rise follow me  
To where the grass leans  
White and deep

There beneath the azure sky  
Arouse my heart with simple joy  
And as I turn to shade my eyes  
Bring back oh bring back my love to me

In my quiet way  
I am killing you  
While I seek a broken frame  
You lie starving  
Hope gnawing  
At your soul

Look at this chair  
Very comfortable  
A place to put my feet  
My empty plate  
On the floor  
The table spread  
With your poison

Once I heard you cry  
Soundless  
I counted the change  
Wrote a letter  
Enclosed a grape  
Felt grand  
A benefactor  
Drove my new car  
With extra pride

When your lids fall  
I'll go on  
Economy calls  
Roads to be built  
Bridges  
Cheaper wigs  
Leather boots  
Pistols

That where I am is where you are  
That where you are is never far  
From where I am and where I am  
Is never far from you

That what's to be is good is now  
That now is realized in full  
That fullness now demands no price  
That now is now and now is nice

There is nothing left  
For me to say to you  
I've been through it all  
I've done all I can do

You're not clever enough  
To fool me enough  
You're not foolish enough  
To fool you

So leave me alone  
As I've asked you to do  
Don't use me in your winter  
And discard me in the fall

You felled me at the start  
And I fell with all my heart  
But I won't fall anymore  
For you

I've spent my money  
I've done my thing  
I'm sitting in the corner  
Hollering

I want to go home  
I want to go home  
I want to go home  
I want to go home

I've put my heart  
On a losing game  
I don't want to take the risk again

I want to go home  
I want to go home  
I want to go home  
I want to go home

Sunday morning paper on my knee  
The kettle boiling for a cup of tea  
Monday evening a friend comes round  
I lay it on the line and almost drown

Tuesday very civilized  
A man from the BBC says wild  
Wednesday I take the plunge  
And land in the middle of a hot cross bun

Thursday evening goes too slow  
I pick up the phone and say what do you know

Friday night I feel the strain  
Of an empty bed but sleep kills the pain

Saturday is quite sincere  
I make it with a guy who's had too much beer

There was a gap in the perimeter fence  
And keeping the pitch  
As cleared as I'd have liked  
Was a bitch

Litter blew through  
There was much of it around  
Manufactured daily  
By those of unsound mind

In the sense that is  
Of not being  
Careful with their mouths

Such is mankind  
Mostly a careless breed  
Scattering themselves  
Like bits of unwanted seed

Hello singing bird in your unsprung tree  
You were my mother once upon a time  
Do you remember me

A friend of mine also has an ancestor a bird  
I recognize the melody  
I hope it's not absurd

To be talking like this  
Whilst I'm walking through the park  
The room where I've been sitting is incredibly dark

The light you enjoy  
The air you take in  
Are as fresh as a daffodil in spring

The girl who is serious  
She could use your song  
Her own gets caught in being frightened to do wrong

But before you fly off to your friends for tea  
Or whatever you do this time of the day  
I'll be here again tomorrow with a loaf of Mother's  
Pride  
It might make up for the times I failed to feed your  
dream

Hello singing bird in your unsprung tree  
You were my mother once upon a time  
Do you remember me  
Do you remember me

Are you free yet  
Has your spirit broken free  
Are you smiling beneath soft skies  
Are you breathing full and clear

Have you lost the pain of earth at last  
Is heaven as you'd like  
Are you dancing with the angels  
Does the music suit your style

You were beautiful when young  
You are beautiful again  
I can see you now more clearly  
You are free at last of pain

Dance on  
Dance well  
Dance long  
Damn hell  
Dance ever  
Dance on  
Dance for me  
I'll sing the song

Freud didn't have any flying dreams at all  
He just had a daughter whom he kept outside  
In the dark hall  
Polishing his shoes

Mud was stuck like glue  
When she couldn't wash it off  
She just covered it up  
Like she did with wrath

He kept her safe  
When a woman with ideas  
Came banging on the door  
He killed her with a cold knife

He'd have made her his wife  
But he had one  
He'd have made her his lover  
But he had one  
He'd have made her his mother  
But he'd had one  
Long ago

I sit at my window  
In the sunshine  
Missing you down to my feet  
But not for much longer my darling  
Not for much longer my sweet

I've waited for you with some patience  
Some anger frustration and grief  
I've laid all I could at your doorstep  
You've tripped over it each time you leave

And after you've left so often  
The hinges  
On which the door hangs  
Have grown weak  
And with them my love  
For you lost its screws  
And its swing  
Has turned into  
A squeak

The riches of understanding  
Lay in a bag on the floor  
I asked you to help me pick it up  
You turned and walked out of the door

So you're rambling  
On the hillsides  
Along your own paths  
I'm looking on

I'm sailing small boats  
In a nearby loch  
I'm preparing  
To sing a long song

There are contacts  
That will stick you  
That will glue you  
To yonder thorn

I've thrown my oars  
Into the water  
Let loose the rope that  
Tied me to your shore

In the boat then  
Floating around  
Feeling scared  
The thought of drowning  
Uppermost

A Haida indian  
From the bushes  
Blows me a kiss  
And I come paddling  
Shorewards

I have his baby  
It's a brown one  
I call it Yeltatzie  
I'm prouder than a  
Kettledrum

Put it on, the kettle  
Let's celebrate with tea  
All the good little stories  
Have to end  
Eventually

When I phoned  
You were contemplating  
Your body  
In the bath  
Examining your knees  
And toes  
Then lying  
Staring at the tap

Turning it on  
Hot  
Lying a bit longer  
Lying a bit more

As you do  
Out of water  
As you do  
Going out of the door

I was like a child  
Waiting to be approved of  
Failing every time  
To be what was required

I was unable I was unwilling  
To hide or disguise  
The bits  
You didn't like

The bits you did like  
You encouraged  
You wanted more  
On your own terms

In between times  
When unwanted  
I became less of a woman  
And more of a worm

Now you take me  
Now you leave me  
Now I suit you  
Now I don't  
Now I'm leaving  
Now I'm heavy  
Now I'm a suitable case  
For living alone

Ideally I wanted to fly  
Not a long way  
But high enough to know  
I was in the sky

For some reason  
You haven't yet divulged  
You preferred to take a walk  
In sludge

And wouldn't budge  
Although I shoved  
Quite a lot  
And wouldn't budge  
Although I loved you  
Quite hot

I grew heavy  
Occasionally I hopped  
Held my breath for a second  
And hovered above ground

Then the hopping stopped  
A bit inside me seemed to lock  
My need to fly diminished  
My ideal began to rock  
On its rock

It finally  
Fell off  
Into a puddle  
Of sludge

Yes I've sung and I've danced  
In a merry old way  
And I've lain on the floor  
In an odd sort of pain

I've sorted it out  
It's been hard  
It's been soft  
It's been found  
It's been cherished  
And now it's been lost

But wherever it went  
Once it's gone it's like air  
You're never quite certain  
It was really there

Black shiny sticks  
Thick with the day  
And the night's rain

Lying in a space between  
A window and a wall  
Thinking you will never  
Come here again

It's a hard and a bloody shame  
That the mistake in me  
Can not be shaken free

That the mistake in you  
Can not be held in me  
And soothed away

You were wrong  
Not to love me  
My darling

You were wrong  
Not to love me  
At all

You made  
Such excuses  
You gave  
Such abuses

I had to turn into a ball

That's all

Propelled by the force  
Of your raucous dishonesty  
You sail like a flat  
Paper doll into the sky  
A red skirt  
A white blouse  
Yellow plait  
A pink mouth

Up into the blue empty space

Flat like a CUT OUT  
Tilting in the bright light  
Glinting for a moment  
Before you disappear

I once flew a kite  
At the sea side  
It fell on a wave  
And soaked into the sea

The signs were there  
I said  
Is it only my own fears  
I see

There were indications  
I tried to listen to intuition  
But it wasn't speaking to  
Me

It was just groaning  
Like an old train  
Going up a hill  
It had gone up too many times before

And as for reality  
In the ice and snow  
The only reality I knew  
Was cold bones

No matter which way I approach it  
I am forced to accept  
That even if the present mess  
Could be sorted out

There'd be little left

To build another mess on

So I'm sending you a song  
Not a long song

It says

Sorry it went wrong  
Sorry it went wrong  
Sorry it went wrong  
Sorry it went wrong

Too much custard  
Prevented me from seeing  
The soggy pudding  
Underneath

All I could think of  
Was the poem at the bottom  
Of the plate which I'd find  
When the eating was complete

Like one I'd known  
About fairies  
Who asked you to tea  
And knew your name

Nothing's turned out  
For a long time  
Like it promised at the start  
It's a shame

The pudding  
Left me feeling ill  
It left the way  
That it went in

As for custard  
It's a great disguise  
And needn't be thick

To be taken in  
It's only my romantic idea of love  
That gets in the way  
When we're trying to dance the bossa nova  
With a touch too much to drink

I'd like to say I'd let romance  
Fly out of the window  
If I thought it would soon  
Fly back in

But a touch of romance can give you such a feeling  
You don't want to lose it ever  
The way it makes your mind and body spin

Maybe at the weekend  
I'll change my life  
Maybe at the weekend  
I'll change my life

Get a hut on wheels  
Roll roll it out  
Through the green countryside  
To the lovely sea

I'll have strawberries and cream  
In a dish with the sun  
Warming their skin  
And mine

In the naked clean air

Maybe at the weekend  
I'll change my life

Your body contains within it the seed of the earth  
And completely satisfies me  
In your arms I am reborn  
I am sea I am sky  
I am sun moon and star  
I am flower and tree

I expand I ignite I take space in my hands  
I am part of the universe endless  
I'm sand

One grain magnified  
Like a jewel I shine  
I reflect in your eyes  
I am cradled in time

Rock me like a child  
Make me your woman  
Make me your man  
Make me anything you like  
Make me anyway you can

You say you've never loved  
Unless you've loved someone  
With everything you've got  
Well here I come

You say you've never loved  
In a meaningful way  
Well I'm the one to start with  
Care away

Talk it through with me  
If you can patiently  
I am desperate to be  
Back in the fold

I know I stray too far  
I was looking for a star  
When it fell into the sea  
I didn't realise the water was so deep

You provided a boat  
I'm not sure why I don't use it  
When it's tied to the shore  
I have a tendency to lose it

When it founders on the rocks  
I am reluctant to remove it  
If it should start to sink  
I am frightened I might choose to walk away

Talk it through with me  
If you can patiently  
I am desperate to be  
Back in the fold

The day your phoney excuses  
Began ringing in my head  
I knew our line was dead

I can hear tapping in the distance  
On a very tightly closed door  
The knuckles of the hand that knocks  
Are mine they're sore

Out on the prairie  
Broken telephone posts  
Stand tilting  
Towards the coast

The dust is rising  
As the evening sun sets  
There's a mountain to climb  
Before the dust gets wet

In a clay pot  
On the hill top  
I bake a mud pie  
Of good love died

Back up from down  
I've been around  
The bottom of the well  
I've found  
That nothing beats  
A heart that beats  
And nothing sounds  
Like singing sounds

From my heart  
I sing to you  
Back up from down  
I bring to you  
Nothing much  
It may be true  
I think I can  
Believe in you

There was no need of me  
When the curtain fell  
The audience rose and left  
I'd come on stage from the side  
I've always found it hard to smile  
If I don't feel like smiling inside

I stood there looking outwards  
The emptiness was sharp  
When I realised  
I might never  
Again get the chance  
To play my part

I decided to sing  
I decided to sing  
I decided to sing sing sing  
Anyway  
Until my heart felt like  
It would break

There was no need for you  
To leave so soon  
You could have stayed for a moment or two  
I know you'd have recognised the tune  
It was the one  
I'd made up  
For you

We've got to say goodbye now  
I'm zipping up an old bag  
I've got it on the clean bed  
I shared with you last night

A curtain on the window  
Is blowing 'There's a slight wind  
Coming through the space  
Where it's open 'To your right  
Is the brown empty wardrobe  
It was empty when we came here  
The coat hangers jangle  
Together there are two

Of us there's not much to say  
In bed we are beautiful  
But somehow can't get on together  
During the day

It's that time of the month again  
It's that time of the year  
Of the week of the day  
It's that time of my life again

The dance floor is getting smaller  
To move I must stand on my own two feet  
There's no longer room for a partner  
The band keeps missing a beat

At a table a light hearted woman  
Is raising her hands to applaud  
She thinks I am there for her entertainment  
The ring on her hand is a fraud

What were you saying  
The lights are dazzling  
This dress has got caught  
On a heel and is torn

Like my heart I remember  
I swore I would never  
Go dancing until  
You'd removed the last thorn

I am limping my way to the exit  
To make it through I expect I'll need to crawl  
If I get home this time with my heart in one piece

I'll renounce dancing for once and for all  
For once and for all  
For now and forever  
My days of dancing are done

Universal energy  
Here I am  
Waiting to receive you  
Like an old clam

Certain somehow  
That you exist  
Having felt your presence  
In a deep kiss

This could be a brave new time for me  
Or just another chance  
To get peeled down nearer  
To the seed

The seed is the centre  
Orange is the colour  
The liquid of the notion  
Is the blue moving ocean

What a relief it is  
Not to feel your repressed needs  
Seething behind  
A pair of cool brown eyes

What a relief it is  
To only feel a hurt  
Which is free  
From self chastisement

There's a cruelty now  
In your sweet smile  
It has broken at last  
Through the disguise

I just can't take the blame  
I just can't take all the blame  
My mummy my mummy  
Won't love me ever the same again

When are you going to phone me  
Didn't I kiss you  
Wasn't it lovely  
Don't you still burn  
A bit  
Of me  
Can't stop thinking  
When are you going to hold me

Can I lie in your arms quite soon  
Will you put your mouth on mine  
For a long time  
Will I sense  
Will I sense your soul  
As if it is part of mine

Will I lose you  
Will you lose yourself  
Will we lose each other  
In each other

When are you going to phone me  
Didn't I kiss you  
Wasn't it lovely

Oh this time baby  
I'm not wrong  
The message you're writing  
Is clear enough to read  
In the dark

Oh no way baby  
No way  
Can you call this paranoia  
When you've tied me to the railings  
In the park

You may even come tomorrow  
To switch on a light  
To untie or patronise me  
While you whisper let's not fight

Your words will sound so sweet  
I'll be avoiding your feet  
You've a kick like a mule  
Underneath

I love sheep  
Thank God I don't eat them anymore  
You've got blood on your chin  
It has dripped from the cut on your lip

The letter you were writing  
Has it anything to do with me  
No I suppose it's to the person  
You've been watering down with your sweet tea

A gift from a lover  
Who's in bed with another  
Is not much of a gift

I realise now  
What I should have realised long ago  
You can't cut off in part  
You've got to let the whole lot go

I love sheep  
Not the kind that follow you around  
Real animals  
That lie with their bellies on the cold cold cold ground

She had lost her emotional content  
Somewhere along the way  
It may have dropped out of her basket  
Or just faded away one day  
Whatever it was it was now lost forever  
But she said there was no point having regrets  
She did recall what a smile was  
And had a memory of her eyes getting wet

With tears for someone who'd left her  
Standing at the corner of a street  
In a city somewhere  
Where it rained throughout the year  
And standing on a corner  
Wasn't viewed as a disorder  
But more as a way of life

The bad mother is dead  
You killed her the therapist at the helm  
You sailed on through her  
You destroyed the crib at Bethlehem  
When she was dead and gone  
I thought I'd also die  
But once more with joy  
I found I still could fly

I flew to Africa  
I'd been there twice before  
I built a mansion house  
With windows and a door

I lived off coconuts  
I had the scent of the sea  
About me as I spoke  
I spoke of God and me

Mrs B  
Has gone to sea  
In the most beautiful boat  
That's ever been seen

She's taken a hanky  
To cry for the pain  
Some people are feeling  
Again and again

She's taken a cushion  
To lie on at night  
For curling up close  
When it's dark When it's light

She's taken a swimsuit  
To go for a swim  
Although when she left  
She was looking thin

She's taken a piece  
Of me now she's gone  
I wish I had loved her  
More deep and more long

The aeroplane can crash  
And out of the wreckage  
You can fly  
The thread  
Which never tied you  
Anyway  
Can break  
It was already frayed

I think I'll stay in the jungle  
Eating coconumts  
As they fall  
From the trees

A blue sky  
Through the leaves  
Will be the shape  
Of your eyes

It is of course  
A red plane  
With lettering in blue gold and white  
It's God's plane  
He'll put it right  
Sometime  
For a different flight

There was rain all around outside  
The car moved through it like a dream machine  
A strong wind tore at the sea  
And a memory of you  
Tore into the heart of me

And with it came the kind of tears  
That feel sore behind your eyes  
That you need to cry out until the last one's gone  
That you need to cry out to move on

And I thought I'd let you go  
I thought I'd reached a dried-up place  
Like a desert in which life's old past hurts  
Would fade and be erased

Then the rain had ceased  
And white-headed birds  
Re-alighted on the highest trees  
The sea had been covered with a sheet of silver foil  
And the memory of you became a song for me

And the road was more like a river than a road  
It was more like a river than a road

Where the last tide runs  
Where the last shadow falls  
Where the clover is white  
And the long grass lying

I will move with the time  
Of the brown river rising  
To the sound of my heart  
With the low wind sighing

Where the pine tree grows  
Where the light has faded  
Where the deer drinks gently  
To avoid your waking

Where the hare bells hang  
Blue as your eyes  
It is there I'll stay  
Till the world is wise