



FLEETHEWHITECITY

A
CHILD
GAVE
ME
HIS
EYES
FOR
A
DAY

KEEP ME HERE IN THIS
PLACE I AM
WHERE A CHILD'S HEART BEATS AS MINE
AND LITTLE ONES' CARES
MATTER TO MY WORLD

*

I DREAMED BUT IT
FRAYED AROUND THE EDGES
TIME MELTED THE SLIPPERY
SAND OF DESIRE MIXED WITH MADNESS

MY VISION SUNK IN THE
BLUE LIKE STARS AND SAILORS
FALLING FROM THE EDGE OF THE WORLD
TO LAND RIGHT BACK WHERE IT FADED

THE WORLD, MY FRIEND, IS LOST TO HUNTING
EVERYWHERE IN FRANTIC DERISION
FOR MEANING LIKE CRAYONS TO SCRATCH
ALL KINDS OF NONSENSICAL IDEAS ON TABLOIDS AND TABLETS

SPURRED ON BY THEORETICIANS
AND SEEKERS ALIKE, ALL ADRIFT ON THE SEA
IT IS PRIDE AND IDEOLOGY, BECAUSE TO KNOW
IS TO FORGET THE HAND WHICH STARTED IT ALL

HAD THE FAITH OF A SEED
AND THE WISDOM OF CHILDREN
FOUND ONLY IN THEIR EYES
AND BURIED DEEP INSIDE A WOMAN'S SOUL

*

I WISH I WAS THERE IN THAT
PLACE I WAS
WHERE A CHILD'S HEART BEAT AS MINE
AND LITTLE ONES' CARES
MATTERED TO MY WORLD

FOG DEVoured MY MIND
I ASSUMED THE WAY BUT
LOST IT FOR A WHILE

here is time

A CRYSTAL WATCH
A SILVER GLOBE
THE SEQUENCE TELLS
OF TIME BELOW
WHERE FLOWERS FADE
AND CHILDREN GROW
WE ARE JUST AS MIST
DISSOLVED LIKE SNOW

HOPE IS FOUND
IN WOODEN FORM
NEVER FORGET
WHEN FEELING TORN
THERE'S MUCH MORE HERE
THAN MEETS THE EYE
THERE'S MORE TO LIFE, DEAR ONE
THAN WATCHING OTHERS FLY

TIME IS HERE
TIME IS NOW
DON'T FORGET
YOU'RE UNDER ITS SPELL
DEATH OFFERS A HAND
IT'S TIME TO DANCE
UNAVOIDABLE
JUST LIKE CHANCE

YOU'RE OFFERED REGRET
IN PACKAGES SHINING
ALWAYS REMEMBER
IT'S NOT YOUR SILVER LINING
THE CLOCK IS NOW
WRAPPED IN GOLD
YOU HAVE A CHANCE
TO LET YOUR STORY UNFOLD

YOU'VE TAKEN RISKS
YOU'VE GONE TO WAR
LEAVING COWARDICE
OUTSIDE THE DOOR
DON'T EVER STILL
YOUR BEAUTIFUL SOUND
DON'T LOOK BACK
EMBODY YOUR CROWN

A CITY STOPS
FOR NO MAN
A CONCERT WAITS
FOR ITS FICKLE FANS
WHAT IF YOU IGNORED
THE URGE TO CONFORM
WHAT IF CREATIVITY BLEED
JUST TO KEEP YOU WARM

WHAT IF TIME
WAS NEVER WASTED
ITS PRECIOUS HANDS
HELD EVER SACRED
WHAT IF YOUR HEART
RETURNED TO SPRING
ITS TENDER LOVE
RELEARNING TO SING

ITS ALWAYS YOURS
TO CHOOSE TODAY
HOW TO LIVE
AND HOW TO PRAY
PASSION IS RARE
CLIMB AND SOAR
FOR ONE DAY
YES, ONE DAY

SUPPOSING THAT YOU
WERE ALLOWED TO CRY
SUPPOSING THAT HOPE
WAS ALLOWED TO FLY
WHAT IF THE STARS
CAME DOWN TONIGHT
WHAT IF LOVE
WAS CLUNG TO SO TIGHT

TIME WILL BE NO MORE

THIS I KNOW
THIS I TELL
YOUR SWORD SWUNG
YOUR ENEMIES FELL
OF THIS I KNOW
IN CERTAINTY I STAND
YOU ARE FREE
YOUR DREAMS ARE AT HAND

ALONE HE SAT, ON THE BRINK OF FEAR,
SURROUNDED BY A SEA OF CHARCOAL AND
CONCRETE UNDER A SMOKE-GREY SKY
ALONE FROM THE WORLD UNDER A SMOKE-GREY SKY
LOST TO THE WORLD UNDER A SMOKE-GREY SKY
TROUBLED FOR THE WORLD UNDER A SMOKE-GREY SKY

QUIET HE STOOD, ON THE EDGE OF DEPRESSION,
SURROUNDED BY A STORM OF PALE AND
PLASTIC UNDER A BLOOD-RED SKY
QUIET TO THE WORLD UNDER A BLOOD-RED SKY
TENDER TO THE WORLD UNDER A BLOOD-RED SKY
PATIENT FOR THE WORLD UNDER A BLOOD-RED SKY

SECLUDED HE WALKED, ON THE VERGE OF DISCOVERY,
SURROUNDED BY AN OCEAN OF GLITTER AND
GLOSS UNDER A ROBINS-EGG SKY
THE CHARCOAL AND CONCRETE PASSING HIM BY
THE WILTING OF SEARCHING DRAWING NIGH
'ERE A BUTTERFLY CHOSE TO FLY

BREATHLESS HE STOOD, ON THE WATER'S EDGE,
LIFE JUST A STONE THROW OUT TO SEA,
SURROUNDED BY RIVERS OF CHARCOAL AND
CONCRETE UNDER A SMOKE-GREY SKY
THE BUTTERFLY THERE, ALIVE, RIGHT BEFORE HIS EYES
HAPPILY CONTRASTING THE GREY OF THE SKY

QUIETLY CONTRADICTING THE DEATH IN THE SKY
SUBTLY CONFLICTING WITH THE INSIPIDITY IN THE SKY
PERPLEXINGLY INVISIBLE TO THE MASSES WALKING BY
UNSEEING EYES HEAVY UNDER THE WEIGHT OF THE LIE
YET THERE IT FLEW, THAT LONELY BUTTERFLY,
THE TRUTH QUELLING THE LIE

BLUE BEHIND RAIN

IT WAS THE ART IN A STORM
THE BLUE BEHIND RAIN
THE JOY IN SUFFERING
THE BEAUTY IN PAIN

IT WAS SPRING CONQUERING COLD
RELIEF AFTER A SCARE
THE BLIND RECEIVING SIGHT
THE COWARD DIVORCING FEAR

IT WAS THE SILENCE AFTER THE CLATTER
THE DAWN AFTER THE DARK
THE STREAM THROUGH THE DESERT
THE SWEET, SWEET SONG OF THE LARK

IT WAS THE CALM AFTER THE FIGHT
THE YOUNG HONOURING THE OLD
TRUTH TRANSCENDING THE LIE
CREATIVITY FLEEING THE MOULD
IT WAS THE SUN CRESTING THE HORIZON
THE LAUGH AFTER THE CRY
THE CRESCENDO OF AN ANTHEM
THE OCEAN TOUCHING THE SKY

IT WAS THE LEAPER BEING CLEANSSED
LOVE WAKING THE DEAD
BLOOD COVERING SIN
POVERTY BEING FED

IT WAS DEITY BECOMING MAN
HEAVEN KISSING EARTH
HOPE AMIDST WICKEDNESS
THE MYSTERIOUS VIRGIN BIRTH

BUT MOSTLY IT WAS PEACE DURING CONFUSION
DESPERATION DISCARDING WARNING
IT WAS BEAUTY FOR ASHES
AND JOY IN THE MORNING

SELL A LIE

MAX OUT THE PLASTIC MAGICIAN
BARTER WITH HAPPINESS
BE MINE FOR A DAY
I MAY FORGET HOPELESSNESS
HEIGHTEN FEAR WITH TALKING HEADS
I WILL RUN TO YOU FOR SECURITY
MUTE NERVES BY STAYING UNAWARE
HIDE YOUR DEATH-RIDDEN TREACHERY

WATCH ME FALSIFY, HIDE BEHIND A MASK
LET ALL THAT IS REAL QUANTIFY, AND BELONG IN THE PAST
I KNOW YOU WELL, I KNOW YOUR SPELL
YOU WON'T LET ME COME OUT FROM MY EXQUISITE SHELL
FOR FEAR THAT I WILL BREAK YOURS AS WELL
BUT REALLY, WHO IS TO TELL
WHAT IS REAL, AND WHAT IS A SPELL

THE MIRROR TRIES TO SELL YOU A LIE
ONE YOU ARE ALL TOO WILLING TO BUY
DO NOT FEAR, LOOK AT THE SKY
BEFORE THE STARS AND LIGHTS PASS YOU BY
THE OPPORTUNITY FOR NATURAL BEAUTY
SCORNEED FOR A FLATTERING LIE

THEY'LL OFFER YOU GOLD, YOU'LL CLIMB A CHAIN
A LADDER OF SORTS WITH NO ONE TO BLAME
AT THE TOP YOU WILL MEET A MAN WHO CAME
HE WILL GRAB YOU BY THE HAND AND TELL YOU HIS NAME
MY NAME IS LONELINESS, SON, AND THIS CHAIN IS JUST A GAME
IT WAS ALL IN VAIN
FOLLOW TRUTH, A LION, UNTAMED

HE WILL ASSAULT DEATH AND DECEPTION
AND CROWN YOU
KING

WATER PONDER'S WAY UP ABOVE
RAIN TUMBLES AS THOUGH IN LOVE
SUNLIGHT DANCES THROUGH AN AUDIENCE OF MIST
A RAINBOW STUTTERS AS A TENTATIVE KISS
IS IT REAL, LIFE SEEMS A DREAM
THUS BEGINS TREACHEROUS THOUGHTS UNSEEN

THE SKY CLAPS IN THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE
EXISTENCE CONSISTS OF FAIRIES AND WARS
AM I BLIND AND DEAF AND MUTE TO THE PLEA
BEGGING MY SOUL FOR INTIMACY
THE CLOUDS WANDER IN IGNORANCE BLISS
AM I LIVING A LIFE ONE DAY TO BE MISSED

THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH BEGINS
STARS AND WATERFALLS SEEK TO WIN
THE HEART AWAY FROM SELFISH AMBITION
COERCE THE FOCUS TO A GREATER MISSION
A NEW OBSESSION NEVER WANTING FOUND
WITH DUST IN HAND AND A PLOUGH TO THE GROUND

SOMETIMES TO WONDER IS A GLORIOUS THING
SOMETIMES THE HEART FORGETS TO SING
SOMETIMES A CITY'S GLOSS DISAPPEARS
SOMETIMES CONCRETE BREATHES DESPAIR
SOMETIMES CRUELTY SEEMS ALL THAT'S LEFT
ANOTHER WOMAN RAPED, ANOTHER GRIEVER BEREFT

A CHILL THREATENS ROOFTOPS ABOVE
A KILLER EMERGES AGAIN TO FAKE LOVE
COLD FINGERS READY TO POSSESS
TO PLUNDER AND SWEAR AND TAKE AND CARESS
ALL IS STOLEN 'ERE THE MORN
HER INNOCENCE FLEEING WITH THE DAWN

LIFE TREADS SIX FEET ABOVE
WHERE THIS ROTTED CORPSE ONCE LIVED AND LOVED
NOTHING IT OWNED SINCE FOLLOWED HERE
IT ALL FLED LIKE A COWARD WHEN DEATH DREW NEAR
EARTH WAS THE TREASURE HERE TO CLAIM
ALONGSIDE MONEY AND FORTUNE AND FAME

HOW DOES ONE BEGIN TO GROW
HOW WOULD THEY EVER LEARN TO KNOW
THAT LOVE CAME DOWN TO FIND US HERE
AMONG THE PROSTITUTES QUIETLY SHEDDING A TEAR
MOST EVERYONE FINDS THIS HARD TO BELIEVE
A TAPESTRY OF MOUNTAINOUS GRANDEUR HE WEAVES

YET ALL SEEMS FOLLY WHEN TONIGHT ONE COMPARES
THIS GOLDEN DAWN AS THE MORNING STAR NEARS
THE DARKNESS TREMBLES AND DRAWS TO A CLOSE
THE BLACKNESS IS WEARY AS A SLEEPY ROSE
ALL THE EARTH GROANS NO LONGER
FOR HERE TO COME IS A LOVE MUCH STRONGER

sometimes

A BREATHLESS HUSH SWEEPS HEAVEN ABOVE
THE CROWNING JEWEL STEPS FORTH IN LOVE
STARS AND WATERFALLS AND BEAUTY PALE
AT THE WONDER UNFATHOMABLE THIS MOMENT ENTAILS
THE OCEAN'S MAJESTY HOLDS HER BREATH
LOVE HAS COME TO CONQUER DEATH

TRYING TO FIND ITS END

A small, white boat with a yellow cabin is seen from an elevated perspective, moving across a vast, dark blue ocean. The boat leaves a white wake behind it. The sky is a clear, pale blue, and the overall scene is serene and expansive.

IT WAS LIKE TRYING TO FIND
A HAYSTACK INSIDE A NEEDLE
I STRETCHED A STRAND OF STRING
TO THE MOON
AND BACK A DOZEN TIMES

IT WAS LIKE TRYING TO FIND
A KEY INSIDE A LOCKED CHEST
I SAILED TO THE ENDS
OF THE EARTH
AND BACK A DOZEN TIMES

IT WAS LIKE TRYING TO FIND
HAY AND STUBBLE INSIDE GOLD
I RAN TO THE END
OF THE RAINBOW
AND BACK A DOZEN TIMES

IT WAS LIKE TRYING TO WATCH
THE SUN SET IN THE DAWN
I SWAM TO THE DEPTHS
OF THE SEA
AND BACK A DOZEN TIMES

IT WAS LIKE TRYING TO POUR
FIRE OVER WATER
SO YOUR LOVE
COULD NOT BE MEASURED
ITS MYSTERIOUS END
COULD NOT BE FOUND

SILENCE

CAN I HEAR YOU STEP OUTSIDE TIME
HAS YOUR WORLD STOPPED TURNING MINE
DO I KNOW YOUR GLORIOUS WAYS
WILL I KNOW YOU ALL MY EARTHLY DAYS

I KNOW MY NAME HAS HELD YOURS HIGH
YOUR WORDS SUSTAINED ME LIKE A LULLABY
BUT HAVE I FORGOTTEN THE LANGUAGE OF YOUR HEART
DO I STILL KNOW HOW TO ARTICULATE THIS ART

I WANT TO LOCK THE OCEAN IN A CHEST
TAME THE PASSION AND KEEP THE BEST
ON RAINY DAYS OUT BY THE DOCKS
LET'S HARNESS THE WIND THAT WAITS BY THE ROCKS

TO FLY WHEN OUR SPIRITS STALL
I WANT TO LASSOO THE SUN FOR ALL
THE TENDERNESS KEEPING COMPANY IN LONELINESS
THE LONELINESS DANCING A BALLET SO SPONTANEOUS

EVEN SO, YOU ARE BIGGER THAN MUCH
START AT THE BEGINNING FOR SUCH
YOU ARE GREATER, AND THE TIME IS RIGHT
TO INTERPRET THIS COMPLICATED HEART IN FLIGHT

ALL OF IT CAME FROM YOUR EYES

CREATIVITY PENNED IN THE DIARY AT YOUR SIDE
STARTED IT ALL AND SENT OUT THE CALL
DO YOU SEE MY TENDERNESS, DO YOU SEE AT ALL

DO MY WORDS SWAY YOU TO TEARS
DO MY EYES BURN YOUR HEART FOR YEARS
DID YOU THINK ABOUT ME BEFORE TIME BEGAN
WAS I JOURNALLED IN YOUR DIARY BEFORE EVEN THE LAND

THE WORDS KISSING THE PAGES JUST SO
LIKE AUTUMN TOUCHING THE FOREST BELOW
DOES MY PASSION SURPRISE YOUR HEART
DID MY WAYS MAKE YOU CRY FROM THE START

IF YOU REACH DOWN DEEP INTO MY LIFE
YOU WILL FIND TREASURE AND LOVE AND DIRT AND STRIFE
A TROVE OF RESTRAINED ADVENTURE IN SIGHT
BENEATH THE LEATHERY REIGNS HELD TIGHT

YOU'LL FIND ME ON THE CLIFFTOPS AT FIRST LIGHT
LOST TO THE OCEAN'S CRY TONIGHT
THE LIFE RUSHING IN CIRCLES OF BLUE AND GREEN
AROUND MY WEATHERED SOUL UNSEEN

CALL OUT, WON'T YOU CALL TO THE GOLD IN ME
THERE'S MORE TO YOU AND TO ME THAN LETTERS, YOU SEE
A NAME OF SORTS, GIVEN UPON BIRTH
DO I LIVE UP TO MINE OR IS IT A CURSE

DO I EMBODY THE REVELATION FOREVER TODAY
DO THEY DESERVE THEIRS WHEN IT'S RAINING TODAY
DO I DESERVE MINE THOUGH THE RAIN BE STILL POUNDING
TODAY
LET ME NOT FORGET THAT I AM YOURS TODAY

BUT EVEN THOUGH THE RAIN FALLS TODAY, I AM STILL

JUST A BREATH
JUST A NAME
JUST A SOUL ON BORROWED WINGS

STILL YOU LOVE ME JUST THE SAME

JUST A
BREATH



*White
and
black
ivory
pens*

How could I not listen
when the air became thick
drawing sea air from foreign docks and efficient trawling ships
my pulse laboured as a stringent call, clawing upstream

Birds and kites
and blue and clouds
became dodgems
Snakes and gulls
and gray and dawn
came close

It was poetry, like truth,
from flesh and bone gracing
white and black ivory pens

He told me
Go
make something
Even though it may be
a mistake
you make

Be somebody

Your life is patient like snow
Waiting



SOMETIMES WHAT SEEMS WHITE IS THE VERY THING DECEIVING THE WHOLE WORLD