



idiolalia

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LONG STORY SHORT

With your fingers you trace
every line on my face
and we're driving on yesterday's wheels
there's a hawk in a tree and its eyes follow me
as if it knows how it feels to try to explain
why I'm drawn to the rain
in your eyes
but I have to resort
to the long story short
it's love and that's all
that I was looking for
that's the long story short
There were ghosts in the road
in the dark they would glow
and I found myself in the ditch
there were flowers that bloomed
on a cold distant moon
and an angel with the soul of a witch
I encountered a slave who asked me to save her
and all I could do was resort
to the long story short
it's love and that's all
that I was looking for
the long story short
I return in my mind to the scene of the crime
to the wars that were doomed to be lost
I squint through the haze of 10,000 days
of a personal holocaust
but nothing is fixed the signals are mixed
and there's nothing that words won't distort
but the long story short
is it was love and that's all
that I was looking for
that's the long story short

PEARL TO SWINE

I can see you there in the bright spotlight
singing songs that split the night
into those who won't and those who might
listen for a while
one could wonder why you care
you look so alone sitting there
with your words like smoke rings in the air
and your fingers long and wild
and you cock your head and you close your eyes
and you leave them all behind
and from here it looks like
yes, from here it looks like
you're throwing pearl to swine
There are those who raise a joyful sound
just to watch it hit the ground
with no one, not a soul around
to offer up applause
the point that I will make is this:
a private kiss is still a kiss
anywhere that you find bliss
is good enough because
in the coldest places you can find the traces
of the spark of the divine
even though it looks like
even though it looks like
you are throwing pearl to swine
In this world we are alone
no one here is going home
prisoners of flesh and bone walking down the road
some will crawl and some will dance
some will live in promised lands
others never get one glance
of something beautiful and the world is turning
and her fields are burning
and the sweet and the cruel combine
still we write the music
yes, we write the music
as if throwing pearl to swine

WILD WILD WEST

The northern lights inspire
the poet and the sage
and the southern weeping willow may impress
the east is filled with wise men
who eventually find their way
to the wild wild west
If you're looking for an answer
you always have a choice
you may not even have to
leave the nest
but if you're looking for a question
the only place to go
is the wild wild west
Where soldiers are forgiven
where success is condemned
where there is no sin
as long as you confess
we all live in glass houses
with our pockets full of stones
in the wild wild west
Be wary of the stranger
with his finger to the wind
who answers every question
with a "yes"
everything is measured
and nothing is confined
in the wild wild west
The streets are lined with silver
and the gutters lined with gold
and angels wear
bulletproof vests
neon is the color
and no one dares grow old
in the wild wild west

UNDER THE RADAR

You can't see me
but I'm there
you won't find my footprints
anywhere
don't try to track me
down on your knees
I am cruising just above
the tops of trees
I am under the radar, baby
under the hot hot sun
underestimated
under the radar gun
You can't hear me
but I speak
you get the static
your reception's weak
you get the singer
but not the song
and you may not think I see you
but you're wrong
You don't know it
but I'm by your side
I'm a thoroughbred
you should take a ride
get up in the saddle
no spur on your shoe
and see things from a different
point of view
let's go under the radar, baby
under the hot hot sun
under the radar, baby
under the radar gun

ABSOLUTE

The sun is yellow
the sky is blue
she's not as simple as that
a broken mirror gives a broken view
her world is flat
if you wander to her very edge
you'll need a parachute
her faith is subject to
prevailing winds yet
her love is absolute
Every statue has living eyes
and the future is today
I need the truth, I need the lies
to find my way
I play my cards close to the vest
I play doubt like a flute
my faith is scattered
from east to west
but
my love is absolute
the sun is yellow
the sky is blue
it's as simple as that
give me time to spend with you
that's where it's at
I'm not looking for a plastic rose
that will never take root
I'd rather be with you here and now
in the absolute

IF WE

If we lived in another time
in another place
your eyes I would recognize
in any face
the angle of your shoulder
the poetry of your bones
if we passed as strangers do
I would turn to look at you
There's a part of the picture
that never meets the eye
there's a rose in the garden
that will never die
there's a soul in the child
as old as time
and there's a part of you, my love
that was always mine
Look out for the message in
the bottle I have thrown
in it you will find a map of souls
that will guide you home
If we lose one another
where the highway bends
if we change into others
we will meet again
we may rise like smoke
over the apocalyptic scene
but our fields will never burn
they are evergreen

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

I thought I'd be
sand through your palm
walk through fire
collected and calm
another girl, another song
spend time with you
but never belong
I was a snake
immune to charmers
feeling safe in my
suit of amour
another girl may not have mattered
but when you sang
my defenses shattered
winter and spring
summer and fall
I was looking for them
all
I was a wheel
I kept on rolling
women came
bells kept tolling
another girl, another curse
I left them all with
famous last words

ARE WE ALONE?

I was lost in a crowd
I was leaning to the wind
my head bowed
sonic boom to my head
I woke up to Mother Earth smiled & said
“are we alone?”

Here I am next to you
sitting in a universe of only two
I look here\I look there
I don't see anybody else anywhere
are we alone?

if you see me send a signal made of smoke
I am waiting for the punchline to this joke

Voices speak in the night
I hear them as soon as I
turn off the light

in a dream I see myself
lying down and being cloned
from someone else
are we alone?

We gravitate to the light
we howl at the yellow moon
that sails the night
who can say why it's so?
all I say is don't ask me

I don't know
if we're alone

Don't wanna crawl\I wanna run
I wanna turn my soul and body
into one

Driver, let
me off this bus
the road is dark and I am curious:
are we alone?

FROM ACROSS THE ROOM

I will love you when I am old
when the leaves have turned to gold
I will love you when I am a ghost
and the wind blows through my eyes
I will love you in my heart and mind
word for word and between the lines
I will love you
I will love you when a black crow lands
in the midst of our well laid plans
I will love you when changes come
and sweep the past away
I will love you like a stranger would
from across the room where I once stood
I will love you
I will love you when I am alone
the ache of distance in my bones
a message in a bottle thrown
across the sea of stars
I will love you to the end and yet
I would love you if we never met
I would love you

EXILE

Take me to your leader
tell them I'm alone
tell them I'm an earthling
blood and flesh and bone
in search of the Madonna
and Michelangelo
I don't expect to find them
but you never know
I left behind my homeland
a pleasant little spread
the panoramic views
were all inside my head
and now I face the future
my expectations high
I'm out of ammunition
but I'm aiming at the sky
I was looking for an answer
but the question got away
and now I'd be contented
to keep the wolves at bay
it's not that I'm ungrateful
I'm an optimistic man
but my nightmare is to end up
right where I began

I WONDER

I wonder if you're happy
I wonder if you still refuse to bend
I wonder where your imagination ends
and your life begins
I wonder if you're walking
walking through the old familiar haunts
I wonder if you found the things you want
or were you only talking?
I wonder if you're still climbing walls
I wonder if you're still that little girl
who never met a man who would not crawl
to catch one glimpse of your little world
I wonder if you're dancing
dancing through the ruins like a ghost
the kind of girl who always made the most
of a losing battle
I wonder who you're kissing
and if he knows the dilemma that he's in
with a girl of such honorable sin
always something missing
I wonder if you're happy
I wonder if you still refuse to bend
I wonder where your imagination ends
and your life begins
I wonder where I'd find you
I wonder where your allegiance lies
I wonder if you ever found the ties
the ones that bind you

SUNLIGHT IN HER EYES

It's raining in my room
it's raining in my head
it's raining in the past
it's raining up ahead
but I don't worry now
let the rain come down
let the four winds blow
let the rivers rise
all I see is
sunlight in her eyes
There's darkness in the world
but it will not blind me
there's darkness in my soul
but it won't define me
and I don't worry now
let the darkness growl
let the four winds blow
let the rivers rise
all I see is
sunlight in her eyes
I am living in
a little world of my own
to me the real world looks
like The Twilight Zone
I don't worry still
probably never will
let the four winds blow
let the rivers rise
all I see is
sunlight in her eyes

THE FALLEN ONE

Fallen leaves under my feet
fallen stars from the sky
you cross my mind
your image incomplete
in the corner of my eye
do you stand next to no man?
are you still a setting sun?
are you still
alone on a hill?
are you still
the fallen one?
I can see you looking down to me
from a tower made of glass
and the stones you gathered on your own
fell like teardrops in the grass
when I threw a line up to you
you simply came undone
and more than once
I turned myself around
returning for the fallen one
And now I hear
footsteps soft and clear
of someone else instead
these thoughts today
of you will fade away
along with everything I've said
the room is lit by moonlight where I sit
and the one I love has come
if ever I
should hear her say goodbye
I would become
the fallen one

YOU SHOULD LOVE ME

You should love me
you should really, really love me
you should be standing like a goddess
right above me
you should live in my beautiful house, yeah
impersonate my beautiful spouse, yeah
dance around in a red kimono
you should be my Yoko Ono
you should love me
You should know me
you should really get to know me
I'd introduce you
to all the people down below me
you could ride in my limousine, baby
if I ever get one maybe
you could be my little chameleon
you could be my one in a million
you should love me
You should leave me
before your love begins to falter
please believe me
we should never reach the altar
but you could be my next little darlin'
you could be one flower in my garden
I bet no red light ever stopped you
if you were younger, I'd adopt you

IF I WERE YOUR MAN

You'd never keep your balance
you'd have to learn to fall
the currency you deal in now
would be no good at all
the fences that surround you
would not keep me at bay
I'd find a way around them
it'd have to be that way
if I were your man
Can't you hear that sad song
played on mandolin?
listen and you're hear of
things that might have been
if I were your man
For every door we open
a thousand more will close
and fall away forever
like petals off a rose
I am married to momentum
but I'm set against the grain
and I'm looking at my mistress
we are driving in the rain

NOW WHAT?

Sometimes I was blinded
sometimes I could see
sometimes I was shackled
sometimes I was free
sometimes I opened my doors to the world
sometimes they were shut
I've climbed outside the box
now what?
I've walked through a desert
down to the sea
I've seen people
who never saw me
I publicized my soul
I let my peacocks strut
I've left my dead behind
now what?
I went to the gypsy
like a blindfolded man
she ran her fingers
down the lines in my hand
she said, mister, you've been lost
and found and lost again
(and I said)
I've been to the east side
I've been to the west
I've taken no prisoners
I've taken no rest
I have met my destiny
I can feel it in my gut
I have become myself
now what?