

Buried Alive

The song claws at my throat
Buried alive
They need me to be weak
That's how they thrive

Even now they took my time, they take my
time

My fingers twist in pain
Feeling their way
With just a fool's hope
For the escape

What I know is my own strength, is my
own strength

You know I will resist
Though it may be in silence
I'll see my own rewards
In solitary triumph

What I know is my own strength
I kept it locked away
And so it will remain
Until I'm free someday

The song claws at my throat
Buried alive
And though I scream inside
It will survive

Envy

Who is this girl?
Mysterious and silent, invading my world

She's been on both sides of envy now
Patience has paid off at last
Knowing not what she now enjoys
Only that her time with you ends too fast

Ooh if only she could see herself
Through your admiring eyes
Ooh if only she understood
How I despise this loss, this competition

She's been on both sides of envy now
Hard work has paid off at last
Knowing not what she now destroys
Only that her time with you ends too fast

Ooh if only I could just ignore
This feeling of rejection, this sorrow
Ooh if only I could see myself
In your arms tomorrow

I've been on both sides of envy now
But I'll win in the end
When your night with her is done
I know you'll be all mine again
(December 2002)

Commodity

Despite all my protests
Its simplicity
Calls me to its breast
The comfort of normality
What I want is to be a commodity
From here it's just too easy

Oh to be typical
Just as selfish as
To be pandered to like the middle class

'Cause there's too many stars
Not enough sky
Why should I even try?

At the end of the day
My eyes dry and red
It's a simple balm
To soothe my troubled head
Media somewhat true
I enjoy it because I'm told to

Placated and satisfied
By mass entertainment
They grovel for me as I won't do for them
again

Living vicariously
Through celebrity
That is how we can be happy

Oh to be typical
Just as selfish as
To be pandered to like the middle class

'Cause there's too many stars
Not enough sky
There's so much beauty, too few eyes

What I want is to be a commodity
Only then I will be free

Placated and satisfied
By mass entertainment
They grovel for me as I won't do for them
again

'Cause there's too many stars
Not enough sky
Why should I even try?

What I want is to be a commodity
From here it's just so easy
(August 2004)

Death of Diplomacy

When the buildings fell I was not afraid of
terrorism
I was afraid of my own nation's call to
repression and pre-emptive aggression
Now I see my fears were justified
And our fearless leaders — once again they
lied

Why will he never tell us the real reasons?
Propaganda wins over real information
Redistribution of wealth justifies murder
Enforcing one mandate by breaking
another

While you pretend it's business as usual
The American way of life is not negotiable
Oh you pretend it's business as usual
The American dream is possible (even if
only for you)

I want to trust my government, I don't
need to be further radicalized
But what choice do I have when there's no
way to rationalize
His power has corrupted him, like those
he fights, absolutely
And I was not scared of terrorism until he
killed diplomacy

While you pretend it's business as usual
The American way of life is not negotiable
Oh you pretend it's business as usual
The American dream is possible (even if
only in his speeches)
(March 2003)

Cursing You

For so long you, you were the one
The standard against which
All others were compared
And I thought since my feelings never
changed
You were the one for me

Now I'm cursing you for letting me hope
Cursing your push and pull
Hating you for ever letting me go
And making me feel responsible

When you told me you would be with
It seemed too good to be true
When you changed your mind (and you
changed it so fast)
I knew we were through

Now I'm cursing you for letting me hope
Cursing your push and pull
Hating you for ever letting me go
And making me feel responsible

Now that you're all alone I'm with
someone new
Suddenly your fears are gone — you
believe I loved you

Now I'm cursing you for hoping for me
again
Cursing your push and pull
Hating that you changed your mind back
And I was not responsible

Always Radical

You alone shared my tears
As we watched such injustice unfold
I alone looked into your eyes
As rationale was retold

Most people argue
Pandering to the middle
You are always radical
Uncompromising
When others would follow their rules
You would be nobody's fool

Focused so strongly
As we shared those afternoons
Could you, so tranquil, understand my
longing
To be so much more than friend to you

Most people argue
Toeing the party line
You won't be so easily defined
Uncompromising
When others say turn the other cheek
You will never risk appearing weak

I'll never say I disagree
But I had different priorities
I wanted to have someone beside me
Who wanted revolution as unblindly

And when I asked you
If I could give you just one kiss
I've never seen such indifference
Uncompromising
While I would have changed myself for
you
You would always remain true

Magnanimous (For J.D.M)

This house is now barren and cold
Where once it was scented, overgrown
So glad to be leaving this misery
Silence, eternal sterility

Someone said, "You want to think you are
good"
No: I don't care what I think

When most people would rather hate than
communicate
You are different, you have something to
say (now...)

But now you're so far away
In word and body, what can I say?
Could you understand my desperation
Magnanimous you, understand my
attention
Unwanted as it was

Hope is necessary, just like trust
In every situation I find myself
Grasping for some connection, anything,
something like community

But most people would rather hate than
communicate
You are different; you care what I have to
say

But now you're so far away
In word and body, what can I say
Could you understand my anger at them
Magnanimous you, understand my
reaction
Irrational as it was

Now you're so far away
In word and body, what can I say
What can I say that will sound the same
On the other side of the electronic divide
(*July 2000*)

Running After Darkness (for W.H.)

Those nights of chasing your ghost
Following the sound of your voice, echoing
through my head
Running after Darkness, running after the
rain
Have finally come to an end

After all my hope has died
Obsession the brightest fire
Burned in me so long how could I
Give up all my dreams without a fight

Night after night I'd lay alone in bed
Watching your pictures dance on my wall
Listening to a childish heart
Beating hope through it all

Day after day I went searching for people
like you
Trying so hard to become someone you
could love
Finding that without you in my mind
I am all I ever wanted to be

And if I could break my love for you
How could I ever trust again
You caused those rainbows to fall
Condemned me to walk —

Alone through streets which yearn for my
love
Naked but for this jaded smile
Could I only be innocent again
Just to watch my heart — as it's broken

Now those nights of chasing your ghost
Following the sound of your voice, echoing
through my head
Running after Darkness, running after the
rain
Have finally come to an end
...an end...an end....

Shall I cry one last time for the death of
these tears?
(*July 1996 and March 1997*)

Resolution

The guilt anchored me
But your face could launch a thousand
ships
And the sky on those nights would steal
any heart
And now the remorse is yours
I hung her on your wall for a reason —
bloody hands, roses
I would have done anything to be rid of
her
Except give up hope of touching you, so I
succumbed

I have always been blind
I will never learn to let go
(For now I purge the lies)
You failed, you failed like all the rest,
At least I though you'd try
But my dreams of true love disappeared in
half a week

I touched you, I found your heart
I found it frail but unkind
I'll never lay a hand on your soul again.

But God how I long to have those nights
back
The time before bitterness took hold
Innocence was painted black and violet
In the violence of floods, in the oceans of
memories
Cascading from this punctured heart
That still cries for new wounds...

The sorrows couldn't wash away as quickly
as love did
No time passed before silence and
proverbial illusion conquered all
And no tears fell after that night, the fall,
but nostalgia burns
And I am always warm
This is my new tightrope
I can't see beneath my feet — I could fall
into space
This loss of hope is eternal
You never believed we were infinitesimal;
I still see it —

On nights like this when the sky falls
I can still resist hoping
I have no more dreams of love
I only dream of telling my story
(Still I wait for someone to sweep me
away, to awaken me to illusory bliss)
There is only this song
You are absolved
Will I ever be possessed by another?
(Never wish for the impossible)
There is only this song
(*November 1998*)