Power and Glory - The Situation

Lou Reed

I was visited by The Power and The Glory
I was visited by a majestic hymn
Great bolts of lightning lighting up the sky
Electricity flowing through my veins

I was captured by a larger moment I was seized by divinity's hot breath Gorged like a lion on experience Powerful from life

I wanted all of it Not just some of it All of it

I saw a man turn into a bird
I saw a bird turn into a tiger
I saw a man hang from a cliff by the tips of his toes
In the jungles of the Amazon

I saw a man put a red hot needle through his eye Turn into a crow and fly through the trees
Swallow hot coals and breathe out flames
And I wanted this to happen to me

I wanted all of it All of it, all of it Not just some of it All of it

We saw the moon vanish into his pocket We saw the stars disappear from sight We saw him walk across water into the sun While bathed in eternal light

We spewed out questions waiting for answers Creating legends, religions and myths Books, stories, movies and plays All trying to explain this

I want all of it
All of it, all of it
Not just some of it

I saw a great man turn into a little child The cancer reduced him to dust His voice growing weak as he fought for his life With a bravery few men know

I saw isotopes introduced into his lungs Trying to stop the cancerous spread And it made me think of Leda and The Swan And gold being made from lead

The same power that burned Hiroshima Causing three legged babies and death Shrunk to the size of a nickel To help him regain his breath And I was struck by The Power and The Glory I was visited by a majestic Him Great bolts of lightning lighting up the sky As the radiation flowed through him

I wanted all of it
Not just some of it
All of it
All of it, all of it, all of it