

# Full Stop

David Keenan

I remember you standing at the back doorstep  
In your mother's apron  
A new day's sun hit the side of your face  
Illuminating the split ends of your hair  
Breakfast was cooking in the kitchen  
As I read a dead poet's words in the garden  
And I'd never seen you so beautiful before  
Last night's love still clinging to your skin  
Hair unbrushed, one bare foot on the other  
Class personified in the Oxfam dress  
Holiest of shows I'd seen  
Come back to me now in waking dream, won't you?  
Come back to me now in waking dream, won't you?  
Come back to me now in waking dream

Stand beside me when all the buses have stopped  
And lollipop ladies have drawn their last drag  
When the debutante queen's been reduced to a hag  
It is you and only you, full stop  
It is you and only you, full stop

Holy laughter in the phosphorus morning  
Eternally young, old age never deserving  
It is you and only you, full stop  
It is you and only you

When the strung-out ghosts of boredom  
Come screaming from the pit  
I will take your ear lobe gently between my teeth  
I'll stand guard outside your door  
While you starve yourself of sleep  
It is you and only you, full stop  
It is you and only you, full stop

Pour your tears into my mouth  
Take this gift of quiet love  
Plant a kiss upon my neck  
As I reach down to tie your laces  
Think of our children's children's children  
And the shape of their faces  
It is you and only you, full stop  
It is you and only you

Our well-worn names  
They shall live on in mind and in myth  
And in the skipping rope games of little gypsy girls  
Around their campfires in the country  
And their song like prayers  
And in the whisperings of young cousins sat on rotting stairs  
It is you and only you, full stop  
It is you and only you

As the hands begin to spin within the clocks  
While the dealers selling dreams bag up their stock  
So I climb and search for answers in the rock  
To a sermon on the mount where the masses flock  
When they get bored and disappear inside to window shop

It is you and only you, full stop  
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