

## Letter from Abroad

John Cale

It's a squalid little town with a tenuous beauty  
The cool wet mornings are so appealing  
People waking up suddenly in the night  
Very disappointed

At the water's edge fishermen smashing their boats -  
taking nothing for granted  
In a few hours the heat will hang over town as the  
northeast monsoon comes roaring in  
Can you feel it?

Afghanistan Afghanistan whatever happened to you  
I don't really care but I thought I'd ask in case it  
mattered to you - let me hear it

They're cutting their heads off in the soccer field  
Stretching their necks in the goal  
Taking them out in the elephant grass feeding them to the  
hyena's  
Don't you hear it

Everybody's lips are thin - eventually eyes are empty  
This a letter from abroad life is cheaper back home  
Let me hear it

You learn from novels living out there rainfall is  
followed by thunder  
You hear a man's voice soothing and calm - 'I understand  
no problem'