

Blossom In The Shadow

Kae Tempest

Old friends with new faces - time don't heal, time softens
Time just blocks out the problems
So why bother waiting when the drink does the same much quicker?
In the absence of a mic, I'll clutch liquor
And raise a salute to the three who gave me the strength to be Katie
Things change, yes, people make gravely damaging decisions that lead
to mistakes
And now I'm sitting here thinking that it must have been a piss take
A big old hoax, the elements cracking jokes watching us tie ourselves
into knots like our ropes were enchanted. Last night I awoke in the
darkness of predawn and watched as the sky gave way to the day:

The moon sat peaceful in the West. The sun sent emissaries to herald
its approach
And gradually he rose, to beam across the sky at his sister. Sent his
colors out to whisper that he'd missed her
And for a short while the two shared the same sky - both of them glor
ious, both of them perfect
I couldn't help but think of us lot in the days gone by
We didn't want to fit the Earth, and so we made the Earth fit us
Big souls in a small dimension. Our wits told us to walk, direction u
nimportant, we thought we'd be safe, we performed with an awkward gra
ce, we were sure there was more to this place

If only we'd known (ah but the journey is paramount), that behind our
backs, many hands had their daggers out
Still - days passed, we laughed, we made beats and drank dragon stout
And every time we had our doubts - we made sure we had 'em out
We played a few shows, it weren't nothing much to brag about
But in within the grouping there was some kind of solution that made
us all sure we were moving through confusion to lucidity - made bigge
r by each other's abilities
Those days are the blood in my lyrical capillaries
You lot are the blood in my lyrical capillaries

Well - 'what happens in love occurs beyond good and evil'
We did what we did, we were people, truly
And as I keep progressing on my path I often think of them: friends,
that gave my own style to me
So I move through life, every tiny little moment, building on the oth
ers, contributing to the now
And I get it: if we'd have stayed allies, never shifted to opponents,
we wouldn't be the people that we are, anyhow, what I'm saying is -
watching the sky this morning, I saw perfect harmony, and it was so b
eautiful
And I thought about us, and the nature of companions, and that day wh
en we all piled into the mic booth for that chorus on that old track
in that studio
No egos, just childish enjoyment imagining itself as maturity
This morning it dawned on me that I still feel the foundations that w
e built then supporting me
And I still hear the words of our young raps calling me

As I struggle on to be what I was born to be - better

So when you rise, I'll smile. I'll greet you broadly, and for a little while, I will shine out
But shortly I'll start to sink slowly and happily away
Cause every good Moon makes room for her Day
Every good Moon makes room for her Day

So yes, you do your thing, and I'll do mine
It's important we give each other space to shine
Cause when morning arrives, there'll be a space in time
When we can shine out together, and glory in each other's glow

"How the human spirit seems to blossom in the shadow of the abattoir"
Malcolm Lowry