

# I Trap You

Kae Tempest

Love is a self-made thing  
I am free  
I stare at the air and I see patterns  
And your name is a song in my chest  
The taste is metallic  
How many billions walk this planet?  
I feel them, I feel them  
You show me my mass  
Love is an endless sky  
An endless cliché that imagines itself to be deep revelation  
An open face, n open palm, n open plain  
All open  
The more that we close it the less that we know it  
And just 'cause I know it  
Don't mean I know how to show it  
They're taking everything from us and telling us nothing is ours  
But here we are, dancing  
You make me a microscope  
You make me a map  
I called it "love," I should have called it "trap"  
"I trap you," I should have said tenderly  
At the end of a long day  
While we kept each other desperately stagnant  
"I trap you so much"  
Yes, I want you to be happy, but don't threaten my happiness  
Can't you see I'm walking this threadbare tightrope?  
Made out of dental floss stitched together with strands of tobacco and dog hair  
And it stretches between two precious fantasies  
My fantasy of me and my fantasy of you  
And beneath, in raging red chopped razor teeth states of fury  
Are all my insecurities  
And all the little lies I like to tell myself  
And every other reason that I can't see the truth  
"I trap you so much!"  
I should have whispered in your ear as we fell asleep  
Bodies unbound, sheets soaked, hearts hammering  
If I see it clear, will it stay clear?  
Will it be clear when you're here?  
I don't want fear, I don't want greed  
I want freedom, I want to be free  
I want you to be free, I want to nourish  
I don't want to feed like some ravenous mouth  
With no guts, only greed, endless appetite  
Need, need, need  
You can't free me, I free me, I breathe  
If I am in pieces, is it easier to see?  
I think I am whole now  
I think I am more whole  
But I still check my phone 17 times a minute  
To see if you called and I missed it  
Trap  
Love is a self-made thing  
Love is a self-made trap