

## Lessons

Kae Tempest

I see the truth  
Even here, in the lies of the city  
It comes for me with its hands out  
When I can handle it the least  
When the madness has consumed me  
And I've mistaken it for my nature  
And I have given myself over to the things that leave me weak  
Each day I wake with the fury to change things  
But with each hour that passes, that fury subsides  
I've cramped myself in to such tight little boxes  
I hope that I live, but I'm not sure this is life

I've seen the lions turn to cubs  
And I've seen the hunters turn to prey  
The lessons will come again tomorrow  
If they're not learned today  
I have seen the lions turn to cubs  
And I have seen the hunters turn to prey  
The lessons will come again tomorrow  
If they're not learned today

All things are singing, life is a chorus  
It all gets so deafening sometimes  
Exhausted, my ears have grown numb  
To the song in all things  
But sunlight on water  
Kissing at the bus stop in the rain  
Or the wind through my fingers when I raise my palms in the dark  
It sings to the parts that are still wild, still untamed  
I thought I'd learned my lesson once  
I learned it till it thumped my head to numbness  
Yearning it would let me rest  
And then I learned it more, I learned it again  
And then, just when I thought I had it done  
I found myself mid-mistake, realizing I'd not yet begun

I have seen the lions turn to cubs  
I have seen the hunters turn to prey  
Our lessons will come again tomorrow  
If they're not learned today  
I've seen the lions turn to cubs  
And I have seen the hunters turn to prey  
The lessons will come again tomorrow  
Cause they weren't learnt today

You would think that over time  
Our lessons would be learned  
But time and time again, we find  
Our lessons have returned  
And even though we've sworn repent  
And promised no repeat  
We find ourselves back here again  
With the same old ragged drum to beat  
Saying, how many times must we be shown  
The outcome of the pattern?  
How many times must we be shown  
The outcome of the pattern?