

# Whoops

Kae Tempest

Well, who's this?  
Staggerin' home, jabberin'  
Lookin' like some street smart arrogant gnome  
Feet stickin' to the kerb like javelins, thrown  
Gesturing wildly, having full blown conversations with himself  
Saying, "Haven't you grown?" to his face in the windows, grimacing  
Grappling with half a cigarette, not managin'  
This is Pete  
Pete grew up on this street  
He moved away, but he's back livin' at his dad's so he can save  
He rigs stages at live events, but every time he gets paid  
He gets wasted and wakes up with less than he made  
Then he hates it, but that's life, right?  
Fast paced, shit faced, low maintenance  
And all of his mates are kind of on the same page  
It's basic wages takes ages to get through the month  
But then payday comes and it's drink all 'round  
Outrageous behaviour, livin' right now, no sense a' later  
Pills by the pocketful, nights last days, and look  
Even if he never splashed out, he still couldn't make the rent on his own place  
Face it  
It's 04:18  
Pete's 14 doors from home and his thoughts are like a pack of starving dogs  
Fighting over the last bone

No, no, no, no, no, yeah!  
No, anyway, what was I sayin'?  
Fuck it, wait, hold on, I'm comin' up, wait  
Good night, weren't it? Must've been  
Burnt too much on the good stuff, lucky me  
I looked up, I saw my future unravel in the lights  
Funny, innit? I love that sinking feeling, any minute  
But you can't win the race unless you're runnin' in it, right?  
Or you can't get a taste unless you're takin' a bite  
Man, I'm climbin' up the walls, things are gettin' difficult  
It's all take, take, take, and start early, work late  
Puttin' in the hours for these drugs, tokens  
Love's a joke when your blood's pulsin'  
Love is real when you start chokin'  
I'm double jumpin' in the vast ocean  
State of me, mate, blatantly the way I was made, y'see?  
I've been gettin' on it since back in the day  
Good place for a bad time, if you ask me  
Trust me, nothin' gets past me  
A bad place for a good time, if you know what I mean  
Never met no one like you, this feels like a dream

Whoops! Back here again  
How many times 'ave I sworn it's the end?  
Whoops! I know this feelin'  
Shovelin' the rubbish, then I'm starin' at the ceilin'  
Whoops! Dancin' to a shit tune  
Hands in the air when it hits you  
Whoops! I'm lyin' in my bed  
And my brain is eating my head

I got these demons that I can't shake  
My past is a vast place, you can't get away  
Life got grim back then, like it does  
Do you know how it feels to lose people you love?  
I like talkin' to ya like this, do you wanna come back?  
Couple drinks, somethin' like that  
I got a gram on my nightstand  
I got an eighth of squidgy black  
I got this feelin' that we're gonna be friends  
I got this song, I wanna play it to you  
I got this dream, I'm gonna make it happen  
I got this thing, I wanna say it to you  
See, I've been writin' poems, it's a thing that I do  
And, would you mind if I shared one with you?  
No, course not, right, sorry, this time a' night  
I always end up spoutin' the same old tripe  
It reminds me of this time I was tryna find my mind  
In the back of this rave, this kid was spillin' blood all over the place  
And I was lookin' out for someone to save or be saved by  
And I found this paper plate, started writin'  
It felt fuckin' great  
I knew then, me an' the pen, we were one and the same  
But, look, I can't take the strain of the days  
I'm pretty sure I'm halfway to insane  
You got such a nice face, and your eyes are like rain  
I'd try and kiss you if I could just remember your name

Whoops! Back here then s'ppose  
Don't watch the state of my nose  
Whoops! My jaw's gone west  
And I've started gettin' pains in my chest (Is that normal?)  
Whoops! There goes my promise  
All it took was two drinks, and I got on it  
Whoops! I swear this person isn't me  
We did have fun, though, didn't we?  
Didn't we? Yeah