

Yesterday When I Was Young

Lena Horne

Yesterday, when I was young,
The taste of life was sweet, as rain upon my tongue,
I teased with life, as if it were a silly game,
The way the evening breeze can tease a candle flame

The thousand dreams I dreamed, the splendid things I
planned,
I always built, alas, on weak and shifting sand,
I lived by night, and I shunned the naked light of day,
And only now, I see, how the years have run away

Yesterday, when I was young,
So many happy songs were waiting to be sung,
So many wild pleasures lay in store for me,
And so much pain, my dazzled eyes refused to see

I ran so fast that time, and youth at last ran out,
I never, never stopped to think, what life, was all
about,
And every conversation, I can now recall,
Concerned itself with me, and nothing else at all

Yesterday, the moon was blue,
And every crazy day, brought something new to do,
I used my magic youth, as if it were a wand,
And never saw the worst, and the emptiness beyond

The game of love I played, with arrogance and pride,
And every flame I lit, too quickly, quickly died,
The friends I made, all seemed somehow to drift away,
And only I am left, on stage to end the play

There are so many songs in me, that won't be sung,
I feel the bitter taste, of tears upon my tongue,
The time has come for me to pay,
For yesterday, when I was young