What You Look For

Mary Chapin Carpenter

What you look for on a dirty street Is a patch of green beneath your feet A stubborn weed or a traveling rose Either one lives to grow

What you look for in a stranger's eyes
Is if he sees through your disguise
How we long to be revealed
To be known we might be healed

Send it out into the Universe
A humble plea, a wish, a broken verse
Be a seed that lands inside the cracks
Seek the sun and it shines back

What you looked for when you were a girl Was a window out into the world From a speeding car or a passing train You were hypnotized just the same

And what you look for now that you are grown Is proof of how time has flown An empty house, a strand of grey And an endless longing for yesterday

Send it out into the Great Elsewhere A kind of hope, a chant, a simple prayer Be the child whose dreams won't ever fade Shout and storm the barricades

What you look for in your darkest hour Is a dirty street with just a flower...

Send it out not knowing where it went Into the blue, into the firmament Be the one who wonders at it all

Send it out into the Universe
A humble plea, a wish, a broken verse
Be a seed that lands inside the cracks
Seek the sun and it shines back
It shines back