Speakers' Corner

Suzanne Vega

I have a newfound sympathy
For the madman in the square
Who rants and raves his rhetoric
Into the midday air

His heartfelt pleas and arguments But the sense no longer there The sound ascends to heaven Like the incense in a prayer

The speaker's corner, there it stands In politics or song For trying everything you feel Whether it is right or wrong

The doomsday prophet
Whose words have all come true
The naysaying soothsayer
So cynical and blue

Has now become more like a child Bewildered and confused But I keep on believing It's what I know how to do

The speaker's corner, there it stands In politics or song For trying everything you feel Whether it is right or wrong

All those full of wind and air Who howl and rant and rave Screaming out distorted facts About the souls they save

Promising the miracles
And pocketing the cash
Pretending they have principles
Preaching only ash

The speaker's corner, there it stands In politics and song I guess we better use it now Before we find it gone