

CIVILITY

you are calling this an end to the story
who are you kidding
I want more story
more meat
for my sandwich
the breaking of the bread
break one into two
If you promise not to hurt me,
I will do anything that you want.
I want you to stop begging.
Tell me this is a game.
This is a game.
If you look good for me,
I will give you anything that you want.
AND IF I DON'T
people could get angry
all the time
all the myths
all the givens
and what do you have now
is that what you did for love
BE CIVIL
this is what I do for love
go horror
write it down
make a silly face
make a civil face
go comic
hope you got what I want
I'm ready to turn in
to turn myself in
to ask forgiveness for all the things that I have done
I'm trying to make you feel better
what can I say
you make me feel like a vegetable
a baked potato
dig it
that was last time
now for the sitting spell
I am glad that you wrote back
can you feel the pressure
I have a life
I don't need love

I know where you are headed
you are going to give him anything that he wants
make animal noises and pretend that you like it
someone is going to lose it here
who are you making yourself up for
get the lipstick
you just didn't write the
RIGHT STUFF
you just didn't RIGHT
the right stuff
she looks great in the rearview
he is going nuts on you now
all body
and no mind
all boy
and don't mind him
just do what has to get done
do the done
quit trying to fool your body
the gig is up
the dig is up
hi honey
butter my bread
high butter
cup
honey my bread
what's up
I make my own rules
but do you make your own make up
do you believe that sinners should have to
PAY
for their sins
of course
they should
the more they pay
the better the sins
can you talk
I am going to get blamed for something that I didn't do
I just showed up
and the
DEED
had already got done
and I had a motive
and opportunity
but I was late on the scene

I cannot be punished for something that I did not do
I cannot be punished for bad thoughts
he never knew what hit him

A GOOD IDEA

feels like a heart attack

I do want to be your friend

we have a great deal to share

you have been acting strangely recently

THIS IS THE WORST LIGHT IN THE WORLD

a random observation

approach

how well do you know your husband

helps you to see a

connection

that you might have missed

I knew it was you all along

YOU REALLY HAVE NO RECOLLECTION ABOUT WHAT YOU DID OR SAID

why are you being so hard on me

sometimes

it is just impossible to remember

it only takes a brief moment

a casual encounter

to shake everything

in place

something

loosens a deep connection

taps the well

THIS IS JUST TERRIBLE

have you seen the pictures

all of you

have you seen the pictures

I am going to be OK

nothing got damaged

I just feel that the earth is eating us up

and spitting us out

no one

is what they used to be

now available

to be set free

by the earth

WHEN IS THIS LIGHT GOING TO CHANGE

run the light

words mean something

your words

what you told me

told me again
more like a story
giving me more and more
and leading towards the end
this must mean something
all the noise
the maybes
I have to go
you've said too much already
already
what are you saying
I haven't confessed
I haven't told you where the treasure is buried
I haven't told you my secret name
you made me feel as if I was part of your world
as if
we had been walking together since the beginning of time
that was all the effect of the night
I say things
you shouldn't take any of it to heart
but down deep
you are taking it all to heart
what are they really saying about me
I use a ruler and a compass and try
to plot the center of your earth
I AM NOT LIKE THIS AT ALL
stringing together temporary moments
and the entirely temporary of these permanent moments
I don't know you at all
can you hear the harmony
if you did
you could
you would walk away now
that is all you get
all you are going to get
walk away
NOW
where did we last leave off
I thought that you knew
we all knew
who exactly were you
it not as if
you can use words to get back to where you started
you need eloquence
a grace in your word choice

wise beyond your years
is something wrong between Mommy and Daddy
what if there were
something wrong in me
it's the movie
don't worry
none of this has anything to do with you
when is the point that she decides to leave
that everyone
shuts down
I have to runaway
from myself
from this life
and in a different place
I will be a different person
why do you keep harassing me
I don't
what are you going to do when you are really alone
or can you take the time to wonder why
THIS IS A SILLY MOVIE
a silly life
you are only trying to soothe your ego
but nothing is really going to change
I feel as if all of this only happened yesterday
like while I was waiting for a traffic light to turn
the movie starts with something suspenseful
scary
a shower scene
this is not a movie
this is my life
if I told everyone what happened
it would be gossip
but if I told them in a way that might be
sacred
telling them of how planets align
then they would see through their ruse
what ruse
I believed you
as I believed you
I called you
as I called you too
you
you
were too late
you have it

have what you want now
do you like it
BE CIVIL
this is more like a civil war
you are just hanging on
to something
words that won't deliver
all of you
making promises
promises were made
can you tell me
can you tell yourself
what was promised
what you promised
what promises were actually in your heart
I can never get to that point
you are always waiting for me to do something bad again
do something badly
what
do it badly
what
that's the word
badly
promise badly
or bad promises
oil or water
which do you need
where can I find the person
she will bear the marks
who will make the promise
who will deliver me gas when I need it
broken on the side of the road
I am not broken down
I am waiting for the light to change
you can't make it obvious
you never can
you never do
you never should
do what has to get done
and then be quiet
maybe no one will notice
take your treasure in hand
and hold it tight lest you let it drop
FEAR NOT
go into the darkest night

with a fire that radiates in the most remote corner
proximate and remote
near and far
close
and gone away
we were close
is that all
too close to touch the flesh
without flesh
ghost in the corridor
that is where it ends
sleeping in the car
living in my car
I just need somewhere
that I can plug in
I am going to rush off
wait
I've got to go
I have one more question to ask
I would like to be part of your life
I need to fall asleep
I need something to help me fall asleep
exhaust yourself
I am too exhausted
my mind is just ticking away
I NEED TO FOLLOW ASLEEP
tearing up the words
and gluing them back together again
won't make thing come out any differently
but it might shake you up enough to see
I HAVE BEEN SHAKEN
did you like it
I have something to give you
what everyone knows and loves
a little shaking
and a little braking
NO NET
I want to take the risk
NETS ARE FOR LOSERS
I think that I am going to fall
again
I didn't get enough
FOLLOW ASLEEP
you look wonderful
a list of all the practical things

and all your impractical things
these words are like an earthquake
do as an earthquake does
this is simply terrible
you can't make jokes about things like that
we will never peel back
get to the next layer
we do believe
that the world will change
if we only see it differently
tell that
to a tidal wave
my house gets washed away
my life
all these things
all these things
ALL THESE THINGS
who do you think that you are
some kind of god
let it all go
put it in a box
and let it all go
if you don't
someone else will
the waves will
HE IS YOUR FRIEND
I just want to stand still and have people say that I am wonderful
gravity is not on your side
you need to take this to stay whole
be nice
I AM LOOKING FOR A LIFE TO JUMP IN
take a little bit at a time
we have almost crossed the sea
gone across the wave
take a little bit at a time
I'm not desperate
but desperation is setting in
BE CIVIL
I'm not blaming anyone
I just want some fair play
a little honesty
repeat these sentences
no one can tell me
what words mean
to be honest

I go around and around
and it still comes up the same way
did you hear that
comes up the same way
face to face
give away yourself
your heart
do you know me
can I get back
SEE MORE
DO MORE
DO ME
my day off
on your day off
on your life off
he twisted my words
she twisted my words
to be their words
makes me angry
makes me want to do something
you're still with him
that is what the government says
he is their angel of death
angel of life
this is all twisted
I am trying to get the straight dope
be civil
do you ever tell
always
tell the truth
always when I am on time
I am straightening myself
cleaning my hair
cleaning my life up
I have a way to make this happen
tell me
what
what is your name
all your names
you're pretty when you're
dead
drunk
I didn't hear you come in
you are going to hear me go out
want to share water

I love you clean
love you alive
love your life
going down the drain
you needed to bottle that moment
what are you mad about
those who twist their words
isn't that what you are doing
cursing with your poetry
there is a man
there is a woman
there is another man
and another man
and another woman
I am working with line segments
breaking hearts in segments
what I can handle
break off a part
break it down
you don't need the whole heart
to be heartless
to feel love
EXACTLY
you said
you said something
that you'd be there
do you have a beef
I want things to be right
the world to be right
words to be right
QUIT DOING THIS TO ME
I could leave
that isn't what I mean
why can't you be more like me
EXACTLY
that isn't what I mean
I am trying to say it
keep trying
and when you get there
call me
WILL YOU BE READY
I am always ready even if I am not ready for you
or you are not ready
I just want to talk
want to tell you how I feel

cool down

chill out

it's not as if it's going to start a war

be civil