

## A PERFECT FACE

I'll put on a perfect face  
for the world  
one two three  
smile  
smile  
and smile  
again

Can you remember  
do it like you  
that is my pleasure  
tell us what you know

that is not going to change a thing

the last angry man

he's the one  
the one who hurt me

are you afraid  
be very, very afraid  
on this Halloween  
the final chapter  
in the  
you have been waiting for

like that  
I remember it like that  
the man  
in my room  
my closet  
I let him in  
but then  
he went inside  
even more  
more than I wanted to let him  
and he just wouldn't leave

we have ways of making you talk  
face it  
you can't do a thing about it now  
HA! HA! HA!

You did this to yourself!  
we used to be friends  
HUM! HUM!

I'm sorry  
what are you sorry about  
how you made him  
TALK  
or what you made him  
SAY

you said this to yourself  
humming a tune  
I know that tune  
no  
I really know that tune

how long  
can you keep  
judging me  
like I did some kind of freaky thing  
that I should be ashamed of

there is no shame here  
if I was hiding in the house  
it was because  
you invited me in  
the house

you've made career from doing this sort of thing  
what do you mean  
I've seen all your movies  
I know what you're like  
I've read the tabloids  
I've got you down like a science

I'VE GOT YOU DOWN LIKE A SCIENCE

tell me about the happy things

do it like you do  
eight minutes to get it right

this is me

and this is you

I WILL NOT  
play the fool  
a new lease on life  
a chance to pretend

I am your future  
your chance to get it right  
WHO  
do you think  
that you are  
I am your future  
your chance to get it right

just give me a chance  
I can make you smile  
I can make you smile  
I can  
I can make you smile

I JUST LEARNED  
about new words  
to make you smile  
you know what we are talking about

I didn't know that you were such a performer  
a physical thing  
you know that we are just getting started  
relax  
get something to eat  
have a nap  
this is going to take a while

you know that there is a  
difference  
between  
getting going  
and getting carried away

I've got you eating out of my hands again  
EAT THE WHOLE THING  
I will  
but let me swallow what  
I've already chewed

what new tricks  
have you learned  
on your vacation  
how to hold your breath so that you don't have to breathe the bad air  
I am coming up from breath  
they are not letting me breathe  
I can't talk  
when are you going to realize that it is time to go home  
WHERE  
IS  
HOME

THE HIGH PLAINS  
looking down  
on a world  
my life  
and saying  
NO  
NOT NOW  
no  
NOT MEOW

what are you watching  
a moving picture  
which part is moving  
the human part

what new tricks have you learned  
how to speak  
but not move my lips  
how to move my lips  
but  
NOT MAKE A SOUND  
where is she

you don't have the nerve to go through with it

I don't need to  
not now  
it just seems to happen on its own  
like a wind whipping up the plain  
this is the really beautiful part  
it just happens  
like an act of mercy  
or something providential

a sky event  
you know what that is  
we are now way beyond  
CONSTELLATIONS  
what can we do to  
shut you up  
pay you off  
or take away all your pay

speak  
to hear the sound of your voice  
like little pin pricks on the skin  
your words  
on the skin  
like a buzzing mosquito  
not another

BITE

is that all  
I mean  
is that all  
I was really afraid  
a booming voice across the plains  
reading my fate from up high

that was a time that I thought that I could do pretty much anything  
with my words

seldom is history  
made this easily  
the flashing lights  
almost going off the road  
there is a lesson here  
I settle back in my seat  
groping for your hand

why are we not friends  
things are going to get brighter  
you could put some gas in the car  
pull away from the curb  
start your engines  
quit  
being so crabby

you have no idea  
what crabby is  
I thought that this was going to be a good night  
more revelations  
more page turning  
getting to the end  
a suitable end  
is that all it takes  
to make a splash around here  
I didn't even see the water  
this is why I write  
to jog your memory  
to help us picture worlds we have only dreamt about  
some things  
are better left  
in boxes  
the way that they were  
take it all up to the attic to stay  
when it didn't hurt

can't you get the point

can't you get the point  
answer me  
answer you

why is he a prisoner  
when will he leave his cell  
leave for good  
is that how easy it is to find  
true love  
when something is that good  
everyone wants to get in on the act  
I really don't have a life  
really don't  
keep coming at you  
and where is your life  
easy to find  
with the prisoner  
in cell block 11  
the forbidden place

tried so hard  
to get the perfect face  
hardly

look me in the eyes  
you know what I am saying  
I could have repeated myself a thousand times  
and it would have all been the same

maybe I should shine my shoes  
brush my hair  
I probably missed something the last time around

why does nobody like me  
take away the perfect face  
and  
why does nobody like me

is this my birthday present  
I didn't think that I deserved so much  
from someone  
who means so little to me  
you know what I'm trying to say

next time  
I won't forget

are these two different people  
doing the same thing  
or two different things  
doing the same person  
that  
is the meaning of poetry

I really do  
wish that I was you  
so many friends  
liquify for my benefit  
it's got to be worth  
something  
if you know what I mean

do you  
know  
what I mean  
I really do  
wish  
that I was you

and  
NOW  
I get my wish  
in the dark reaches of the night  
here  
you are really alone  
so that is what it is like

it's not like that anymore  
I just have to turn on a light and all the goblins  
will  
vanish  
poof!

now  
I have my life back

peel off one face  
and put on another  
would you like to buy a mask  
try a mask  
try me on for size

there's nothing here  
I mean  
there's nothing here  
I walked around over and over again  
and I looked  
there is nothing here  
nothing to plant  
nothing to grow  
nothing to change  
there is nothing here

I thought  
that there was an entertainment clause  
that you were going to stay to make me feel good  
feel better  
I might as well have watched my whole life on TV  
then I could have fast forwarded to the really good parts

then it wouldn't have been so good  
it would have just been on TV  
what makes it really good  
is taking it slowly

as it happens  
the best part is the suspense

then again  
I could just smile for the camera  
smile for my supper  
I'm not playing  
I'm not paying  
one lump or two  
a spoon full of sugar  
a lump of coal  
its all pretty much the same  
you know  
getting lit

there is a better story  
I'm really into astrology  
it tells me if it's OK to get naked  
with my partner  
or partner to be  
or to partner with someone naked  
or just partner with someone with another story in the stars  
I'm really into that kind of shit  
don't try to be my friend  
don't try to be my friend  
I have places to go  
I am heading downtown  
and I will be there faster than you can shake a stick  
shake a stick  
don't try  
to be my friend  
don't even think about trying  
oh  
hang it

I didn't know that I could  
I didn't know  
that I could  
you know

I'm not driving  
I want to end up in the same place  
the same old place  
did you see that

I'm really into the stars  
if you know what I mean  
seeing the constellations  
are like seeing a mirror  
seeing a who  
that I am

in the same old place

why are you so mean  
because  
I can be

we're not going through that again  
it's always sunny here  
don't ruin it with a rain storm  
do you have an umbrella  
it  
seems to be like this  
every day or so  
more rain  
more you falling from the sky  
I didn't ask for this  
what can I do to be rid of you for good

say the secret password  
give me what I want  
one lump or two  
one shake or two  
one rattle or two

just asking is enough for me  
not for me  
for me  
not for me  
for me  
not for me  
for me  
not for me

it's over now  
not for me  
it's over now

over and out

