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Celine Dion "At Seventeen"

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I learned the truth at seventeen That love was meant for beauty queens And high school girls with clear-skinned smiles Who married young and then retired

The valentines I never knew The Friday night charades of youth Were spent on one more beautify At seventeen I learned the truth

And those of us with ravaged faces Lacking in the social graces Desp'rately remained at home Inventing lovers on the phone Who called to say "Come dance with me" And murmered vague obscenities It isn't all it seems at seventeen

A brown eyed girl in hand-me-downs Whose name I never could pronounce Said, "Pity, please, the ones who serve They only get what they deserve. The rich relationed hometown queen Marries into what she needs A guarantee of company And haven for the elderly"

Remember those who win the game Lose the love they sought to gain In debentures of quality And dubious integrity The smalltown eyes will gape at you In dull surprise when payment due Exceeds accounts received at seventeen

To those of us who knew the pain Of valentines that never came And those whose names were never called When choosing sides for basketball It was long ago and far away The world was younger than today And dreams were all they gave for free To ugly ducking girls like me

We all play the game and when we dare To cheat ourselves at solitaire Inventing lovers on the phone Repenting other lives unknown That call and say, "Come dance with me" And murmur vague obscenities At ugly girls like me at seventeen

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