

## **Before Braille**

### **"Before Braille"**

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SECRET NO.7

We feel just like  
Two criminals  
With unknown crimes  
It's not your fault  
It's always mine.

THE SPANISH DAGGER

We'll stop cashing me in for a thin line  
You're right on track to know what it feels like to lose  
more than you've ever gained  
Charges pending further investigation  
You've got to expect that you're falling from graces  
Rehearsing all your persona will need when you're  
front-page fighting (aim) for your dignity  
I almost taste the the irony  
How fiction replaces history  
Use daunted glow to light your page

You say those feelings of doubt will never cut across  
your mouth  
I know that Socrates and impurities are getting you  
down  
You'll take all they've got to get your fill  
Your time is running out  
You're getting carried away because no one cares  
about your fame  
I see the dagger in your name  
Deny your roots for future rain, for future reign

Add one more kill to raise your worth  
It's so sad, cause it's all the truth you have  
Trade breath for gold  
There's no Armageddon when banks are there to  
relieve you  
Why prevent yourself to take wealth from someone  
else  
Dare to incite yourself when you're your only foe  
You're carried away  
Nothing's real about your fame  
I can see you drown in your own wake  
So pale, so thin you'd float away  
I see you trying so hard

So no one will ever take your place when you feel the  
dagger brush your face  
Well I deny myself what I can take when I  
can wait and expect the same

Incriminated, your teeth still shine over the suffering  
Deceiving trade, but the blade will shine.

#### CINEMA SPINE

Just a little bit of feeling in your stories and I'm ready  
rearing to go  
Just a little bit of grieving in the words you relate and  
I'm alright

Crash land, insist, can't exist on frailty  
I always crash land, resist, exaggerated authority

Just a little bit of bleeding in your stories and I'd be  
really wanting to know- how they treat internal bleeding  
when they're dying to be the future glow

All attacks come two by two  
We've been gliding, so far just spinning our wheels

When all the bodies fall do they face the sky  
To choose which star to make it home  
When all the bodies fall is it finally quiet  
Or does their last heartbeat echo till they're gold

Crash land, resist, re-define a dire need  
Crash land, in this unassuming reality

When all the bodies fall will they shun the light  
And dust their feet on brittle stone  
And all this time is wasted on an assembly line  
To keep things plain enough to be sold

Tell me something to ease my worry, tell me something  
to calm me down  
Tell me something to prove your story, a shot of  
sodium pentathol  
Tell me something that's not too late to  
deny  
Why would anybody treat your right

We already know how the actors feel.

#### MIRACLE MILE

I'm ready to blow  
It's not my fault  
Don't waste a four-leaf clover

Good happens to the owner  
Just wait, when the leaves fall  
They go below your faults

Now you're just boring me to death  
I've got a catacomb underneath the same place I lay  
my head  
I've gotta bury them blind and then control what they  
find  
I'm hanging on a thread  
You know I'm ready to blow like I've told you I would

Out of nothing you find your own authority  
Cleanse the water to send your holy blessings  
I'm flying solo, I'm falling so low, where do we go  
Out of nothing you find your own authority  
Forbidden honor will go as far as atrophy  
I'm flying solo  
I'll go

Now you're just boring me to death  
I've got a cataract focused on a shaky conscience at  
best (shaky guest)  
I've got to make up my mind and try to make up some  
time  
I'm hanging on a thread

You know I'm ready to blow, but not quite yet  
You know I'm ready to fold, can't count my cards yet  
You know I'm ready to forget all we've been through  
You know I'm ready for you

The shaken are desperate for new sounds on old  
ground  
To bury reflections, infections from strong hands in  
weak glands  
And when they're awakened their vision will fade

It aint a bit of my fault  
I'm gonna miss her.

TWENTY-FOUR MINUS EIGHTEEN  
Confidence, coming clean, ambivalent to everything  
24 minus 18, find a problem for everything  
Don't try to tell me what I mean  
Don't try to build yourself from the outside  
Don't try to make yourself; you'll break every time  
Don't try to take your guilt and leave it behind  
I carry mine

This lust will defeat us

I've learned too many times  
You cuss when you see us  
I'm taking all this in stride

I breathe too hard  
My lungs are scarred

Have you tried to arrest yourself, arrested in time  
Why change if you can't find the time  
Try to make the most of this or get left behind  
Everything comes at a price

You trust us when you need us  
Why do I feel there's nothing inside  
This crutch will relieve us  
How can I fix this if I haven't tried

I want to send you roses before your death is staged  
When understanding violence, suspects know their fate  
I want another reason why I never help myself  
I waste my days regretting why

Celebrate, Semper fi, Sic Transit Gloria

If you don't intend to go, never say that you want to  
Stay home until you know, life's short, but quite a ride  
Got 8 months to go, a tightened grip will get you  
through  
Don't forget your goals, time is on your  
side—  
as long as you're alive

You want some closure  
You almost finished  
But couldn't fool your pride  
Out of nothing, fake forgiveness  
Never satisfied.  
(What if I'd lied)

JAWS OF LIFE

I'm caught up in the jaws of life  
What can heal can also tear you up inside

Writing down your own anthem  
You don't like the older one  
I would stand at attention for less than minimum  
Wage your own forgotten wars  
Trade honor for canker sores  
Ghostly pride with matching tours  
You're childish without the joy

I know that I said I would change

I know that I haven't changed  
A shoulder to lean on and then break/embrace  
I'm barely breathing with my status day to day

Caught off guard by innocence  
I cross my heart you influences pull you down  
I swear it's not the fault of mine or of the fault of  
anyone

So tell me what the guilt feels like  
Are you swallowed in the jaws of life  
When you strip people down you'll see how they don't  
need their cover  
Is it clear and defined when fists from a simple conflict  
rise  
And we turn into monsters we thought were once  
extinct.  
(I could tell you things to shock you too)

GOODNIGHT QUIET NOISE  
You're full of spite and I know the reason why  
Your alibi will never hold up to mine

Standing up when paralyzed  
Pull the cloak over your eyes  
It aint enough to be a mountain tall  
Adding up, so name the price  
Spent your lot to turn on a dime  
Remove your mask to make a curtain call

Something's calling me out to the boulevard  
My thoughts need cages until the morning  
When night it rises like the tide I feel I'm underneath  
I'm drowning in nothing at all

Make amends before you start the fight  
Finding out why you should sleep at night  
The blood will boil then solidify

You better see this, you won't believe it  
You can't avoid the way they perceive you to be  
They're still behind you  
They're catching up to hold you to the back of the line.

SPLIT LIP ENVY  
I'm just a token of your flirtation  
Nothing more than a description  
You're just a guy, just a kid from a place where your  
philosophy is a catastrophe  
Wake up split lip, you're not that cool  
Put your words in quotes then call yourself Vegan

Turn up, off, on your stupid song and sing  
Words about the things you know and what you think  
you have to show her

As for myself, I think it's obvious that I'm envious of you

Tell me now what you've got to look forward to  
I hear they're hiring at the dairy queen  
Your whole story has been a disappointment  
Your poetry is just a joke to me  
Anything and everything about the affection  
That you get when what you've got then  
10 times 42, what's that got to do with anything this  
song's about  
This jealousy I'll do without

Where am I in this fairytale, this nightingale counters  
what I had in mind  
and leaves me depressed and despised.

#### PARANOIA PAYS OFF

I'll try to get your attention so I can clear my name  
(I know you don't care) because I've seen my picture on  
your dartboard  
Bleed without pain  
You're always so violentÃfÂçâ, -Ã,Â!blah,  
blahÃfÂçâ, -Ã,Â!to spite your face

I'll try to understand the words you yell at me  
I've simply become someone you abhor  
Have you discovered that you need to change your  
ways  
When out in the open and sense of direction just fades  
away  
You've never been sorry for a thing you've said  
Have I told you that there's nothing I can't take from  
you

It's just decent to wait a while before you go and make  
a fool of me  
Break through with a crescent smile, got to plan ahead  
for broken teeth  
It's too late to defend yourself, I saw you laying down  
beside the things we'd never talk about  
But go on believing  
See, my paranoia is paying off.

I've been to/stayed at all the places I never felt I'd ever  
be calling home.

#### WHEN THE FEELING FADES

It aint over, but it feels like it is done  
Getting older and dignified  
I thought we could go out for a ride  
Look at gravesites and pretend that we're inside  
Trade headstones for the night

Relax and just settle down  
This hesitation will not be wasted  
We can't cross hidden lines  
You know it helps like nothing else to taste the wind  
when you prepare to fly

ÃfÂçâ, -Ã... "Olli-Olli-Oxen-FreeÃfÂçâ, -Ã,Â if you  
can't find a victim then you're hunting for me  
So when the legs I have won't move I've got a good  
place to hide  
Under cover, I'm hating all the things you say but don't  
mean  
You're an imposter and I've seen you changing sides  
You're a dictator and we all drink to your pride

We'll get this right  
We'll leave all the talking for another night  
It's never kind, but we don't mind  
You can't inspect a soul after it dies

Relax and just settle down  
This hesitation is not complacent  
(It's clear) We can't defend these lines  
You know it helps like nothing else to lean through the  
windowsill within your mind

You give of yourself now  
You think for yourself now  
You cry by yourself now  
Because you want to be let down  
You're a martyr with guest lists  
You'll never make a birthday wish  
Well you can't be without gifts  
Because you need to be glorified

I can see why you're mortified when the feeling fades  
Time won't ever be on your side  
Are your feelings mine?

#### ABRACADAVER

So you see yourself holding the knife though it seems  
you're more terrified than the faces you practice at  
night, so you can watch your tongue sympathize

We all know it's wrong, but pretend that it's/we're

innocent

Get out of the way  
You say that you can't move  
We'll drag you away to rot in your test tube  
Congratulate me just when you need to  
So captivating that I rot in place

Innocence fools you  
It cuts you into pieces  
You try to find a way to live or way to die  
The decadence coerces you in zines & books & movies  
I know I'm right this time

Get out of the way  
You say that you can't move and threaten to stay  
Well, chalk up a new bruise  
Like a thief in the night  
So planned and deliberate  
No use for a knife, if you can't hide  
it's not right?

You fall out of photographs and skin up your knees  
Pulled under the undertow I'm so sorry you're sorry

We all know it's wrong  
(Here we go)  
We'll all get along

Get out of the way  
It's clear I can't trust you  
You gamble with fate  
A downfall for refuge  
You reciprocate while plotting your next move  
It's not fair to complain from miles away

LOW END OF LUXURY  
Waiting for stalemate  
Collect all your things for what they're worth  
(You've got me leaving messages all night)  
Wedding presents postmarked eternity  
Will you return to the sender

You're paced too slow  
The price of life  
Save a collapsed lung  
Take long distance shrugs  
Leave a light on not a siren

So what's your story  
Have you change that too



The ring slipped through your fingers, but still you can't  
let it go

I'm lost and found in some low end of luxury  
(I'll start my packing when you start to fall asleep)  
It's just the same as it's always been  
I've lost my will for anything

It's not rational why you'll go  
Hear it in her voice  
She regrets her choice  
Giving up by nomination  
Once more just say it softly  
the ring slipped through your fingers, but still you can't  
let go

Its hard to know what makes us fall apart  
Its hard to want to stop it when it starts  
Its hard to know what makes us fall apart  
Scars jump at a chance to make a mark.

#### ARRIVE ALIVE

You try to make this last  
But your candles burn too fast  
Divided before you were born  
Were you divided from your former you

You'll never make it far  
Well it's time, so let go of my arm  
You're dying north of 40  
You are destined for its solitude

Just pull the cover over your eyes  
Or do what just feels good  
It's easy to be content about your life  
Until it's over

Why does this feel so good  
Won't somebody tell me while I'm alive  
Why can't I withstand my lust is so much stronger than  
my love for life  
(It's just fate to play)

Will you take over when I'm bleeding  
Watch me squeeze out every pint I've got  
It's over  
I can feel it  
Well-rehearsed accidents prepare to stop  
And I am trying  
Know what you want before you start

I read your diary (to get to know you)  
I skipped right to the end (I don't feel guilty)  
Empty pages (of untold stories)  
For days you didn't want to live (oh well, you've given  
up)

Too late to decide my fate or re-write autobiographies  
And though I just woke up, I feel that I'm washed up  
You're always fake (you fear the worst)  
Because you've been betrayed (so well rehearsed)  
It's your fault I can believe handshakes  
I've gone far enough, that's why I'm washed up  
It's over, I mean it  
It's over, I believe it now  
I'm washed up.

#### AFTER ARGUMENTS

Deathbeds and guarded borders  
Bedpans and doctors orders  
Move on and leave the weak behind  
Back stabs and painted on smiles  
It's easier to die admired  
From here there is no turning back

Fall out of focus  
Arguments end where you leave them  
(What's it take to be satisfied)  
You battle your progress  
Arguments fend for themselves

I've been shot down too many times  
I guess I blame myself for targets I can't defend  
A Punishment will never fit a crime  
Well should I go ahead with this, if I could go ahead at  
all  
I'd be more confident if you'd admit you're wrong

Do I need to chalk your lines  
Victims precede the crime  
You're blaming yourself next time  
We'll take turns to cover the tracks that we leave  
behind  
You use me to waste your time  
Your grudges carry themselves just fine  
Regrets, I take yours if you'll take mine  
A fair trade for lightning bolts, landmines or genocide

Unplug the phone, I need it quiet  
All we have left is all we hold on to  
I don't care anymore, let's put this aside  
I'll scream with my last breath, "I'm

alright  
All we have left is all we lay next to

White boys, start your own KKK  
You look like you're good for nothing anyway  
Just like your parents before you  
And just like your faceless neighborhood

I know that I'm the one, I feel just like Shakakahn  
If it's not for me, it can't be right for anyone  
I blame the cynics and the sun  
So goodnight.

UNFIT  
I'm just not fit to go on and neither is anyone  
I've always needed a crowd just like an orphan

I don't deserve this at all  
Strike that  
I deserve all I get  
I could be walking on water and complain that my feet  
get wet

But I'd be fine if you'd let go

I've always known the places of those who run for cover  
The camera angle i've taken is wrong

I'll let it be, I'll let it go...if you say so

You make me feel like I'm a salesman and somehow  
I'm caught with red hands  
Tightrope over reason like a skeptic with plans  
You look at me for your desire, but I'm using all I have  
If you get off on your placement then get off my back.

Just say the words  
Then fall into these arms  
Just say the words  
I know this feeling can't be/isn't right.

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