Incredible String Band "The Actor"

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The actor leaves the stage with a rose in his hand He settles in the back seat his thoughts are like fine sand

Driven through the rain swept streets casting a melancholy stare

Upon two enraptured loves kissing without a care

The dreams of an actor spill slowly by
Like the thoughts of a dreamer or the casting of a die
Talking to gay fellows of the follies on which they perch
He saw a lovely lady beneath the arches of a church

Cigarettes in the airless twenties
An estate well filled with dust
In the evening reading Swinburne
Eating mightily with some false lust
But a kiss was what we found
On damp but friendly ground

The lady wore no makeup but she stood like a swan Thin body of a dancer her dress was quietly torn Her eyes searched his distant heart that lingered in the ram

But his friends caught his iron gaze and carried it away again

Broken hearted in the loveless twenties

Where a wink was like an embrace Making love on blue fridays From across some foggy space But a kiss was what we found On damp but friendly ground

Tea was like a mirror a reflection never there His thoughts upon that ring of love that burned upon her stare

Her eyes her lips her chin her grace the rain upon her hair

Thus it gripped his white gloved heart can anyone be so fair

Untied in the breezy twenties
With a hand held in my arms
Bearing my heart to the hallowed spires
Of this quiet and ancient land
For a kiss was what we found
On damp but friendly ground

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