

## Jane Birkin

### "Anno "close To The River"

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The Tower walls at midnight burn, / With fraught desire  
- the rocks beneath, / Are sharp, and wet with fictions  
blood. / Someone leaps, the other turns ... but who is  
who. / Forget what you want, but / Don't forget the link  
that grew me. / That travels deeply, / Through me in the  
form of every / Thought that I think. / The Loathing and  
the Love, / Bubbling together at the / Brink of my  
emotion. / This commotion started / Long before my  
face was ever / Etched into the Wall of time. / I have  
both your madnesses inside. / I am in constant  
disagreement with myself. / But I cannot leave me. /  
You both cannot leave me, / nor one-another, believe  
me! / I am the ring that won't slip off with soap. / You've  
broken the armies inside me, / And now they stand  
poised and opposed ... / Now there is blood. / Now  
there is love standing, covered in glory, / and honour  
lies covered in mud. / You and I, Ma, we built too close  
to the river. / Look at us washing our minds free of  
fever. / Brushing off bird shit and bad dreams forever.  
/ And never once turning the tide. / Thank you for pains  
and concerns / That have made me, In turn more /  
Unhappy and kind. / I am proud to remind them of you

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