

## John Watts

# "I Smelt Roses (In The Underground)"

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NEARLY FELL DOWN A BASEMENT FLOOR AS  
I WEAVED MY WAY THROUGH THE WELL DRESSED  
CROWDS  
IN SEARCH OF YOU.  
I TOOK HOPE FROM THE SAXOPHONE THOUGH  
HER MOUTH GREW COLD SHE STILL BLEW OUT  
A SYMPHONY. . .  
THE SCENE IS FAMILIAR. I LOOK AGAIN.  
WHEN I CAME HERE WITH YOU BEFORE IT WAS  
DIFFERENT.  
I SAW BEAUTY IN THIS WASTED LAND  
I SMELT ROSES IN THE UNDERGROUND  
I SAW A FUTURE WHEN YOU WERE AROUND.  
BUT NOW IT'S OVER.  
THROUGH THE DARKNESS I CALLED YOUR NAME

AS THE FRIENDLY FACES MODE THEIR WAY  
TO SEE THE GAME.  
SOMEONE STOPPED ME AND ASKED THE WAY  
I SHRUGGED AND SMILED BUT SHE GLARED AT ME  
IMPATIENTLY.  
THE AMERICAN WAITRESS STILL KNOWS YOUR NAME  
WHEN I CAME HERE WITH YOU BEFORE IT WAS  
DIFFERENT.  
I SAW BEAUTY IN THIS WASTED LAND  
I SMELT ROSES IN THE UNDERGROUND  
I SAW A FUTURE WHEN YOU WERE AROUND  
BUT NOW IT'S OVER.  
YOU'LL ALWAYS HAUNT ME.

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