

Smith Patti

"Death Singing"

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In the straw-colored light
In light rapidly changing
On the life rapidly fading

Have you seen death singing?
Have you seen death singing?

With throat smooth as a lamb
Yet dry as a branch not snapping
He throws back his head
And he does not sing a thing mournful

Have you seen death singing?
Have you seen death singing?
Have you seen death singing
In the straw-colored light?

He sings a black embrace
And white opals swimming
In a child's leather purse

Have you seen death swimming?
Have you seen death swimming?

With a throat smooth as a lamb
Yet dry as a branch not snapping
He throws back his head
And he does not sing a thing mournful

Have you seen death singing?
Have you seen death singing?
Have you seen death singing
In the straw-colored light?

Have you seen death singing?
Have you seen death singing?
Have you seen death singing
In the straw-colored light?

He sings of youth enraged
And the burning of Atlanta
And these viral times

And May ribbons streaming

And the straw-colored curls a-turning
A mother's vain delight
And woe to the sun and woe to the dawn
And woe to the young, another hearse is drawn

Have you seen death singing?
Have you seen death singing?
Have you seen death singing
In the straw-colored light?

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