

## Wendy James "Basement Kiss"

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Lucy Grace can't show her face  
down in the North End Road  
For in Belgravia  
Rumours have been whispered  
and suggestions have been made  
Did you sell your friends out  
when the heat got too intense?  
You say you like the danger  
but it's only a pretence  
You say you need the money  
When everybody knows you can  
always fall back on your inheritance

Did you bruise your arms on those false alarms?  
Did you bruise your pride on his smile so wide?  
Only fingertips from forbidden bliss  
Did you bruise your lips in this basement kiss?

Who's that sneaking round the door?  
You can't come here no more  
Can't you go home again?  
She used to sit alone for hours  
Spend her evenings watering dried flowers

When her mother came to stay  
and finally went to bed  
Lucy Grace was in the front room  
shooting through your head  
She tried to take your breath away  
and give you something else instead

Next year she'll serve her function  
in that Audrey Hepburn hat  
It still won't serve her much  
but she'll get over that  
She'll be pale and feign indifference  
as they're handing out the prizes  
Spilling Daddy's pearls of wisdom  
And her ugly sister's tranquilizers

Why were you so tardy putting up your guard?  
When you hurt so easily and you try so hard

Did you bruise your arms on those false alarms?  
Did you bruise your pride on his face so snide?  
Only fingertips from forbidden bliss  
Did you bruise your lips in this basement kiss?

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