

Steve Stipp "I Actually Believed"

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Another day, standing like an island in a stream
Drifting away, preferring just to see but not be seen
Until, among the people
Passing slowly through my view
I saw a shining vision from my past
She hadn't aged a single day since I had seen her last
And the memories of love returned anew

My courage came
And moving up behind her as she walked
I called her name
And said it seemed like years since last we'd talked
But she stared at me in wonder
Didn't recognize the face
And finally said, "I'm sorry, but who are you?"
For a moment, I was speechless
Then I carefully withdrew
Well, I guess she really put me in my place

But the times that I remembered were too vivid to
ignore
How could she possibly forget?
Perhaps I'd changed more than I knew
She might remember yet

So I hurried t'wards the door that she went through

She paused once more
And turned as I again called out her name
But still that stare
Kept telling me that things were not the same
For, even when I told her who I was, and all we'd been
She acted like I must have been insane
"We've never been in love," she said
And before I could explain
She turned and walked away from me again

I found a chair, and crumpled in its padded vinyl palm
Consoled myself, sat motionless till I was feeling calm
I didn't understand, at first, the anger I'd received
Until a thought occurred to me
Perhaps we'd never been in love, I just wanted it to be

I'd dreamed so much, I actually believed

But the times that I remembered were too vivid to
ignore

I guess I really loved those dreams

But if I had it all to do again, I'd save my self-esteem

So I turned bck t'wards the door where we'd come in

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