

## Suzanna Vega

### "Machine ballerina"

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Am I an afternoon's pastime?  
a thing on a string  
to be thrown and retrieved  
like a phone call received  
on somebody's birthday  
to tease and delight  
and then say goodnight  
and then just say goodbye?

Am I a toy on a tray ?  
a soft piece of clay  
queen or clown for the day  
machine ballerina  
soldier of tin  
standing so loyal  
while you sit so royal  
then I'm put away?

Ch: For your approval,  
perusal,  
and your possible  
refusal,  
I'm amusing,  
I'm a puppet for your play.

Am I your Mad Magazine?  
skin trampoline  
pin-up pinball machine  
your fantasy girl  
of puzzling parts  
but none fits or starts  
we match wits but not hearts  
I'm heard but never seen?

Chorus again

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