

## Emmy the Great & Tim Wheeler

### "Paper Forest"

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You're not unlucky, you're just not very smart.  
These things will never leave you - they're as close as  
you can get  
To a blueprint for the future - but you can call it fate.  
It's like these days I have to write down almost every  
thought I've held,  
So scared I am becoming of forgetting how it felt,  
And these fears they will unravel me one day,  
But still I am afraid.

But I'm blessed-  
More or less, more or less-  
Standing in the afterglow of rapture with the words the  
rapture left.

Now you're blessed amongst all women,  
Now a man who's very good,  
He tells you how you feel until your life is understood,  
And he leads you through it arm in arm as though  
There was a map to guide the way.  
Now you write because you love him, now you write  
because he's kind,  
You write so much, you look up and you wrote yourself  
behind,  
And you're standing in a labyrinth of paper and the  
map has been erased.

But you're blessed-  
More or less, more or less-  
Standing in the afterglow of rapture with the words the  
rapture left.  
Are you blessed?  
More or less, more or less?  
Now you're standing in the afterglow of rapture,  
but there is no rapture left.

Oh come, and we will celebrate the things that make us  
real,  
The things that break us open, the things that make us  
feel  
Like these accidental meetings up and partings of the

way  
Are not so much our choice but in the blood of how  
we're made,  
It's like the way I have to write down almost everything I  
see,  
So that the record does obscure the thing the record  
used to be,  
And I know I'm not unlucky,  
I was just born this way.

But I'm blessed.

Now a paper forest grows up in the supermarket aisles,  
The baby born with teeth looks at its mother and it  
smiles,  
And we all fall down  
Like wind blows through the paper forest.  
And a paper forest grows up in the supermarket aisle  
Alarm clock fingers turn they're counting seconds like  
they're miles  
And you say, "Wake up now, 'cause I can see no paper  
forest."

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