

**Marie-Lynn Hammond****"Young Men"**

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they move as quick as flowing water  
their manners are rough and their spellings worse  
they laugh too loud, but it doesnt matter  
theyre an unmasked blessing and a blessed curse

they throw stones at your window at two in the morning  
you say its too late and you wont come down  
but they are full of the juice of persistence  
they know they can make you come around

and even though you feel delirious  
you know you really cant get serious  
not with those young men, thats who I mean  
young men, so young and green  
are you shocked and surprised?  
are you scandalized?  
or are you, admit it, tantalized?

they ask me what it was like in the sxties  
did I ever see The Beatles on LSD  
one minute theyre making me feel so young  
and the next as old as some redwood tree

theyre big on rap and bands like Sonic Youth  
sounds just like noise to me if you want the truth  
oh God, did I really say that?  
I cant believe I said that  
I used to listen to The Fugs, and Hendrix  
and Frank Zappa!

save me from those young men  
young and strong  
young men can dance all night long  
are you shocked and surprised?  
are you scandalized?  
or are you, admit it, tantalized?

oh what would my feminist sisters think  
if they knew I consorted with younger fellas  
would they suspect me of reverse exploitation  
while secretly feeling just a wee bit jealous

I called an older male friend and I cry  
I say Ive fallen for this wonderful guy  
but hes just twenty-three and its such a drag  
the friend answers dryly, dont brag!

older men with young women never had a problem  
its this other way round thats all so new  
I find myself doing pathetic arithmetic  
when Im forty-nine, hell be thirty

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