Falling Out of Time

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- 3. Layla (*Night*)
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III

Pierce the Skies - Breathe

Text

Heart Murmur

CENTAUR: It's like a murmur

Inside my head, And never stops A rustle, dead leaves, And there is someone Treading on them

I have to tell it like a story Find the words to understand What happened to me...to him.. Because he'll never, never...

It's like a murmur... a buzz...

Inside my head...

MAN: I will go there, to him

WOMAN: Where's "There"? What's "there"?

MAN: There, to him

WOMAN: There's no 'there'

And he's not... he's not

CENTAUR: Find the words **WOMAN**: There's no such place as 'there'

And he's not, he's not, and not, and not.

To understand
Write it down
Like a story:
There's a man
There's a woman
He will walk
She will not.

MAN WHO

WILL WALK: No

It's impossible

That we That the sun The clocks The Moon The couples

That the trees in the streets turn green

That blood in our veins That Autumn and Spring That the world simply *is*.

WOMAN: Stop

Return to me MAN: To him

Return to us

Messengers

Instrumental

Layla (Night)

MAN: At night

People came

They carried a message

In their mouths

They walked a long way

Quietly grave,

And perhaps, as they did so, They stole a taste, a lick. With a child's wonder

They learned they could hold

Death in their mouths

Like a candy made of poison To which they are miraculously

Immune.

MAN *(cont)*: We opened the door

We stood there,

You and I,

Shoulder to shoulder,

They

On the threshold

And we Facing them, And they, Mercifully, Quietly,

Stood there and

Gave us
The breath
Of death.

I did not shout when he was born

WOMAN: I knew, tonight

You would come Don't be afraid,

I did not shout when he was born, and

I won't shout now either.

Come, Chaos

WOMAN: Come, Chaos MAN: I saw one eye CENTAUR: Now,

Come, Chaos Weeping For a moment
And one eye crazed They sink.
A human eye Both not saying

Extinguished The same
And the eye of a beast Words

Soaked in blood, insane Not bewailing him

I cannot see youPeered at me from your eye For now.

Not with my human eye. But bewailing the

Music

Of their previous

Life.

CENTAUR: The wonder of

Simplicity, Lightness.

WOMAN & MAN: The Earth

The Earth

Opens its mouth
And swallows us.

Opens its mouth
And swallows them.

MAN: Here I fall

WOMAN: Stop! I do not fall

Return to me I fall

Return to us I do not fall.

Step by Step

WOMAN ATOP THE BELFRY: Step,

Another step. He walks And walks To him. He is

An unleashed question

An open shout.

My heart beats:

He walks

My blood pounds:

He walks

No

I did not go there.

Atop a belfry
I walk alone now

In circles

Slowly, Slowly, Nights, days. While he On the hilltops Facing me, Days, nights Orbits

His own circle.

Bo, Bni (Come, son)

WALKING MAN:

Look at me,

Son.

Here

I am

Not.

Come!

I am not here

The house is yours.

My blood your blood.

Come,

Be present

Vibrate

Laugh

Everything now is Yes.

So love

Burn

Lust

Fuck

Quick, my child,

My eyelids tremble!

Quick,

Devour

Be deep

Be sad

Rage

Rave

Quick, my child

Dawn is rising!

Touch a warm body

A woman

Breasts

MAN (cont): In your hands.

The head

Of a newborn child

Unborn
To you.
No! Stop!
Come back
To darkness
Oblivion.

Just do not see
With my own eyes
What happened to you.

Interlude:

In Procession

(Townspeople are drawn into the Walking Man's journey; all characters are voiced by the CENTAUR)

MIDWIFE: Y-y-y-esterday she

W-w-w-ould have been five

COBBLER: Poisoning your soul again?

MIDWIFE: W-w-w-hat is in your

M-m-m-outh? Open!

COBBLER: Don't touch!

Leave it!

MIDWIFE: Th-th-there's blood...

Sp-p-p-it the nails!

CENTAUR: Look there: It's the midwife and her husband, the cobbler.

Walking behind the Walking Man.

And look, look, there! It's the mute net-mender.

NET MENDER Agh...agh...

CENTAUR: And the elderly math teacher

Muttering his equation, like Spinoza:

ELDERLY

MATH TEACHER: The object--the life of the son--

Must never be located in the universe

At a distance

From which the father--the observing subject--

May encompass all of him

With one gaze

From beginning to end.

CENTAUR: ...and they groan... and trip...and stand...

walking half asleep...

behind the walking man...

A wail rolls over the desert...

MIDWIFE: L-l-l-ook, woman!

Over there: a c-c-c-liff c-c-c-ut Into round smooth mountain!

CENTAUR: A barren brain-hill

It pulsates, perhaps

Once in a thousand years.

It is the brain of the universe It is not what emits the wail

It is desolation.
Only desolation.

Mute and deaf and

Flat

It has no wails
No thoughts

It has no answers And no love.

SILENCE

Pierce the Skies

Instrumental

Walking

WALKING MAN: Walking,

Walking my mind away

Walking,

Sleeping my mind away

My head rests on your shoulders

I don't know

Who carries whom

CENTAUR

&

WOMAN: He walks,

Puts himself To sleep

MAN: My legs

Lift slowly From the earth Lightly, slowly

We hover Between Here, and There.

Skein

(Interlude within Walking)

CENTAUR: It breaks my heart, my son

That I could--

Find
The words
To This

Walking (cont.)

WALKING MAN: The thread will soon

And we will glide

And look
At whatever
Is there

At whatever we dare

To see.

This void This absence Where you Still breathe Still flutter

This void

Where one can touch

The here,

Still almost feel The warming hand

That touches

There.

Perhaps/If you meet

CENTAUR: And you, walkers?

When you meet them, If you meet them,

What will you tell them?

Will you tell him Of his brother, Born after him?

Will you tell her that You took all her pictures

From her room?

That you couldn't bear it any longer?

That you gave his dog to a boy in the street?

WALKING MAN: You were right, woman.

Perhaps I don't need to reach

The end of ways

Perhaps this walk itself

Is both the riddle and its answer

You were right, woman. Perhaps, there is no *there*.

Go Now

WOMAN ATOP

THE BELFRY: Go now,

Be like him

WALKING MAN: You were right, woman.

I am here and he's there And a timeless border

Stands between here and there.

Thus to stand,

To fill with knowledge.

As a wound fills up with blood:

This is to be man.

WOMAN ATOP

THE BELFRY: Go now,

Be like him Conceive him

Yet be your death too,

Almost. Like him

Be now, but only until The shadow of his end

Falls

On the shadow of your being.

WOMAN ATOP

THE BELFRY (cont.): And there, my love,

There will come peace--for him--

For you.

A WALKER:

Look, there:

A leaf, green,

A miracle on the rock.

Look there:

A fly, landing on the leaf

Now he cleans his body

And extends his translucent wings.

He hovers

And lands again.

Vibrant... a riddle...

But he should be careful, right?

From the one in the web.

No! He touched it.

The fly, with the tip of his wing.

He touched it.

Lost.

Tragedy.

We instantly know.

He struggles.

Tries to lift off.

And he buzzes

Until the skies

Almost tear apart.

His mouth, wide open.

What?

What are you trying to say?

And what?

What has been revealed to you?

That you didn't know

When you were spawned?

Ayeka? (Where?)

WALKING MAN: Ayeka?

Where?

Where are you, my son? And who are you there? And how are you there?

Ayeka?

Pierce the Skies: Breathe

Voice of a Boy: There is

Breath
There is
Breath

Inside the pain

There is Breath

THE END
