Song of Letters

Dear Kielder
Stay alive now
feel the act of unbecoming
feel the future loom again
know how much you want to live in-
side the glamour of this place
As the past returns around us
into shadows of itself

Wayne and Lucy, be together
Hold your story to the light
Feel the act of unbecoming
Feel the past return around
Know how much you want to live inside
The glamour of your hope
As you turn towards the future
We are falling into one

Dear Lucille, here we are then
Strange how people look at you and
Strange how you can be so present
Even as you draw the line
As you step outside
As you step outside

Dear Sushila, hold them tightly
Feel the past return around as
You are holding onto hope that
even this, all this might change
As you draw the line
As you draw -

SUZIE JOINS

Dear murmur
Hold them gently
Hold the weight of knowing people
Hold the weight of staying true
Place your body in this landscape
Know your body in this place
you're a mine of hidden stories
on the lashes of your mind

Stay alive with hopeful hopeful
in a crowd and on the brink
hold the weight of knowing people
Hold the weight of staying true
you are full of hidden stories
that are brinking on your mind
Hold your body in this city
//Breaking landscape of a wo-rld--

--Wanting staying, earthbound true-ful
Falling, knowing, brinking, tearing
hold the weight of knowing people
even this, all this will change

Dear Lois
Fall away now
feel the act of unbecoming
let it all slip from your hand
feel the embers of beginning
as this place returns around
feel the embers of beginning
let it all slip from your hand

© Rajni Shah Projects

Landbreak

they said: when the land is shaking,
when the earth itself is breaking
there's a void of hesitation
and you can't know who to trust

we heard that you might be coming
we've put up the lights and speakers
we've picked up a crowd of flowers
just in case you want to stay

he asked in a quiet voice if
there were reasons for this rupture
she asked in a quiet voice if
we could face the future now

you said that it's like at night time
when the dark is unexpected
and whole world turns to liquid
and you wait for dawn to break

MUSICAL SECTION

they said: when the land is shaking
when the earth itself is breaking

It seems like it should be easy
but sometimes it's so much harder
So thank you for coming out from
wherever you are calling home

it's not just that I can see you
It's not just that I can see you
There are voices in the distance
that can still be here tonight

they said: when our hands are shaking,
when we're not sure what we're holding
there's a mound of reassurance
in just being in this place

© Rajni Shah Projects

Now That You Know

you are walking away from the city

as the windows fall out of the sky

And it's clear we're emerging from back then

As you fly through the streets like a parade

-now that you know what you know, would you ever come back?

now that you know what you know, do you still want to stay?

Now that you see what you see do you still want to act?

Now that you see what you see, do you still want to stay?

SILENCE

you are walking away from the city

as the windows fall out of the sky

in the rhythm of birds as they migrate

at a crossroad of centuries

-now that you know what you know, will you ever come back?

now that you know what you know, do you still want to stay?

Now that you see what you see do you still want to act?

Now that you see what you see, do you still want to stay?

-now that you know what you know, will you always come back?

now that you know what you know, do you still want to stay?

Now that you see what you see, can you ever not act?

Now that you see what you see can you ever just stay?

© Rajni Shah Projects

Spiralling Weather

all the books you loved
people that you cared
feelings of regret
murmurs of desire

buildings that fell down
friendships that you grew
letters from a year
curtains in a room

chairs and hearts and home
pills and plants and food
memories and hopes
crockery and shoes

you have to let it go
and as they all take flight
the inside floods out
chaos into light

every now and then
you feel them fly past
everything you knew
all the furniture

all the books you loved
people who cared and
feelings of regret
murmurs of desire

and you stop trying to know
what holds it all together
as you step outside in-
to spiralling weather

© Rajni Shah Projects

Rhymes

to break wide open
to shy away
to blinker and canter
to squander the day

to wander and wonder
to place and displace
to keep it within you
and not leave a trace

to smile at a stranger
to hold onto trust
to quell with intention
to know that you must

to cast a deep shadow
to not understand
to let it all slip
from the palm of your hand

to speak in your own voice
and to wonder why me
to wrap up a gift
when you're drifting at sea

to stay on the bus
just to feel its embrace
to borrow and burn
and to fall into place

to ask for a friend
just to be in the room
to wish it were Autumn
when Summer's in bloom

to mess with the system
to walk into dirt
to stay and unravel
to move and stay hurt

to whittle away
or to charge right ahead
to fall into fiction
or to fall into bed

to be in the world
in a myriad of ways
to linger at crossroads
and count down the days

to help when it's too late
to lose and not care
to wish for destruction
to never be there

to curl up inside
when the world is in pain
to hold yourself back
or to swallow the rain

to break wide open

© Rajni Shah Projects

Glorious

As we draw this act to night
as the hills are folded in
As the coloured lights are fading
and our thoughts are packed away

It is glorious
It is glorious

As we move towards a pause
as the city scapes to dusk
just before you leave your seats
feel the weight of history

It is glorious
It is glorious

//As the future looms again
As the past returns around
As this place remembers us
And we look to where we are

It is glorious

BIG PIANO

Here's to all the people here
Here's to those who can't be here
It's for us right here right now
It's for us right here right now

It is glorious
It is glorious
It is glorious
It is glorious

© Rajni Shah Projects