

OF LOVE AND LOSS AND SOMETHING IN BETWEEN

POSITIVE THINKING

Don't cry, don't sigh, don't wonder why
Don't count the clouds, please don't deny
Don't break, don't shake, don't hesitate
Don't doubt our love, don't make me wait
Don't fear, don't dread, don't lose your head
Don't let me go, don't leave my bed
Don't slip, don't trip, don't bite your lip
Don't miss your step, don't lose your grip
Don't run, don't scream, don't spoil the dream
Don't free my hand, don't change the scene
Don't lie, don't try, don't reason why
Don't break my heart, don't say goodbye

WALNUT CURLS

I'd love to give you my whole life
To make you glow, make you my wife
I'd love to buy you diamond rings
Soft silk and satin, a clock that sings
Lalique and pearls and walnut curls
A painted sea that ebbs and swirls

I'd love to have just half a chance
To watch you laugh, click heels and dance
If I could take you by the hand
We'd run barefoot on sloping sands
Where once you ran as time began
Stole birthday kisses from this man

I'd love to leap into your arms
To catch your breath, capture your charms
I'd set you free to fly forever
We'd dive and swoop and soar together
We'd own the sky, the heavens high
And every cloud that ever cried

If I could give you yesterday
We'd never find a better way
To live and love and share our dreams
To give so much until it seems
Our hopes, our fears, our salty tears
Have flowed as one through all these years

HOLD ME CLOSE

Shake me gently as you leave me
Tread the stairs so softly as you go
Don't drop the lock, leave me believing
You could return for all I know

Shout out your hurt from every roof-top
I'll nail closed each window, bar each door
The wildest wind won't drown your sorrow
But I can't hear it any more

Kiss my cheek the way you used to
Hold me close when day is done
Dry my tear as only you could
Tell me all that's lost is won

Beat my brow with fists of fury
Run so far and hide away
Call me names – I'll never answer
What's yours is yours – what's mine is fine today

Stroke my face the way you once did
Wrap me, shield me as before
For I can wait – not tire of waiting
And I can love – for evermore

A SECOND CHANCE

Protect me from the lengthening of the days
Save me from the pale brightness of the sun
Lay me down in that old familiar haze
Let me waste my hours slowly, one by one

Don't set my goals nor any kind of yardstick
Don't force my wilting words to rhyme on cue
Romantic couplets are such an old trick
'Quatrains' a fancy term, but nothing new

Fill the empty space with fragile feelings
Fill the pounding heart with blood love red
Fill the vacant mind with hopes and yearning
Light the shadowed soul with hot fire instead

But please protect me from the need to rhyme
Please save me from the counting, line by line

SECOND BEST

Meet me this side of darkness
Where the empty sky greets the sea
Gaze deep into pools of sadness
The pleasures gained were far from free

Grasp my hand, recall the madness
Of those wasted lonely years
I promised much, delivered far less
I take the blame for second best

Long ago I was so hopeful
I'd change the world alone for you
But I've tripped at every hurdle
My spirits faded, gold to blue

Take me back to my ambitions
Show me where it went so wrong
I'll pack my bags, my inhibitions
And cry goodbye, farewell, so long