Poetry Series

Ella Yaron - poems -

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A Cry From The Womb

I am not yet born

Keep me myself When the easiest thing is to change Everywhere you turn, tuts and sighs reverberate Your entire self is squeezed into a ten centimetre 2D box And stamped upon with red ink That will never wash out. An eternal dunce's cap You become a walking statistic Hustled to a camera lens or shoved into the dark A chorus of colourful voices suffocated into one mechanic monotone Tethered to a never-ending horse mill Day in and day out Until, every bone exhausted, Your face a grey, unrecognisable cast All you can do is raise your head slightly In attempt at a nod And rehearse your lines "Yes Miss"

The tent is lit with the rage of spinning lights
The audience wait in anticipation
As the child stumbles jerkily across the tightrope
The cheers float up towards her
Perhaps it was the excitement
Perhaps it was the height or light
But somehow
No one noticed
That the child was not a child
But a bundle of bones
Laced together with words of others

"You can't" "No" "Improve"

"Surrender"

The crowd continue gazing up Entranced by their own intricate illusion And the fall of the empty child Is never noticed.

A Visitor At Your Door

A visitor at your door Needing no permission Entering and devouring.

Often unexpected, unwelcome
But occasionally, desperation summons it
Hoping it will – like water to fire – quench.

Lifting you higher than the ground of reality and happiness Cradling you, You begin to ally yourself with it

It's your only company.

Drinking all your resources, running you dry of all that you are.

It can push you downstream Until...

Deep under water
You give in,

You give up.

An Aubade Without Love

The impatient fire licks over the horizon chasing the blanket of darkness
It creeps through the cracks in the shutters

alighting on hollowness

a painting of manufactured love hung crookedly, concealing a couple, paired for mere warmth.

Turn back the clock to midnight – like beasts, they mate, candlelight the only spark.

And in this vast, empty silence the sound of latex splitting.

Sunrise finds no star-crossed lovers yet her body has been granted a gift

No pause to question, the powder-white tablet slips down

down

down

to extinguish the flame that had begun to burn.

Maternal Winter

Slowly, as a child makes its first step I hand over to you my trust

Within this basket Lie all my dreams and fears

And I watch you, watch them Your fingers cradling it hungrily.

Nestling my head to your cold breast I hear, within its cage Your hollow heart

Thud, Thud, Thud
Your blood pumps only for you
You live to live
Not to give life

But as I, stricken, begin to turn away I hear an echo
Of the unspoken:
Your love lost in translation

Or was I merely hoping?

Not all mothers want to be mothers But all children want a mother

'Please mummy,
I don't understand
Why I still battle on
Seeking the impossible

Please mummy,
A fragment of love
Not too cold, warm enough to last
To grasp onto
When the nights roll in
When the darkness shrouds me

Please mummy,

I seek a mother'

Who cannot be found.

The Life Of A Tyrant

Two men sit distanced apart at the table Gazing at the board lain out before them

Knowing smiles. Let the game commence

At first, steady,

Careful,

Spectators holding their breath

He's winning; confidence builds! For him, it's just a game

He has no battle plan Impulsively jabs his horse down

Just to be crushed

He gulps down a refreshment, Waves at his wavering fans It's not his hands that are dirty For him; it's just a game

Now the power's rushed to his head; Horses, Soldiers, Queens and Kings, long dead The fans are up in arms But he can't hear their cries

There's blood dripping into the night

But he's content, Soon to be in the safety of his bed.