

Tea and toast

Lucy Spraggan

Tom was born in 1942
With eyes of blue
And the doctors said his birth was far too fast
His heart stopped twice
But yet he survived
As he took his first breathe
His mother took her last

And his father knew that he wasn't to blame
But he never quite looked at Tom the same after that
And he rarely spoke about her
But when he did
He said: "Your mother used to say this:

'When the skies are looking bad my dear
And your heart has lost all it's hope
After dawn there will be sunshine
And all the dust will go
Skies will clear my darling
I'll wake up with the one I love the most
And in the morning, I'll make you up
Some tea and toast'"

Well, they met through a friend
Who introduced them
And the first thing Tom said was: "Would you like to dance?"
They moved with each other and when the music got slower
He said: "Don't let go of my hand."
He said: "It's only polite if I ask you tonight
Would it be alright, if I could walk you home?"
That night he told of of his birth
And said when it hurt
He thought about what his mother said about tea and toast

Well, two quick years went by
They were side by side
And without a plan, they conceived a little child
He said: "Woman I love you and this you know
But I only have enough for our food and clothes
But I love you and this baby
Until the day that I die."
She said: We'll take care of this little life
And we'll fall in love with her baby blue eyes
And we'll be alright from some advice that I know."

She said: "I never got to meet her
But if I did, I'm sure your mother would have said this:

'When the skies are looking bad my dear
And your heart has lost all it's hope
After dawn there will be sunshine
And all the dust will go
Skies will clear my darling
We'll show this baby all the love we know
And in the morning, I'll make you up
Some tea and toast'"

Well, he took those words
And he made them proud
He worked day after day
And hour after hour
So that they could buy a little house just on the outside of town
The little girl grew up and so did they
They said that they loved each other everyday
And forty years later, that brings us to now

And as they're walking down the street
Her grip loosens on his hand
He puts his arm around her side as she falls to the ground
He hears her breathing and that's the only sound
Her body on the floor attracts a worried crowd
Tears roll off his face as he says "don't let go, now"

And he's sitting by her bed in the hospital ward
Their daughter walks in with a family of her own
She says: "Dad, I don't know if she can hear you now
but there's one thing mum would want you to know:

'When the skies are looking bad my dear
And your heart has lost all it's hope
After dawn there will be sunshine
And all the dust will go
Skies will clear my darling
Now it's time for you to let go
Our girl will wake you up in the morning
With some tea and toast."