

## Gaza

Marillion

When I was young it all seemed like a game  
Living here brought no sense of shame  
But now I'm older I've come to understand  
Once we had houses  
Once we had land  
They rained down bullets on us as our homes collapsed  
We lay beneath the rubble terrified

Hoping. Dare we dream?  
We gave up waiting  
For us, to dream is still a dream

When I woke up, the house was broken stones  
We suddenly had nothing  
And nothing's changed

We live, eight people, in this overcrowded heat  
Factory-farmed animals living in our own sweat  
Living like this is all my baby brother ever knew  
The world does nothing. What can we do?

We will kick the ball  
We will skip the rope  
We will play outside. Be careful  
We will paint and draw. We will say our prayers

Outside the pitiless sun bleaches the broken streets  
The darkness drops in the evening like an iron door  
The men play cards under torchlight  
The women stay inside  
Hell can erupt in a moment day or night

You ask for trouble if you stray too close to the wall  
My father died .feeding the birds  
Mum goes in front of me to check for soldiers

For every hot-head stone ten come back  
For every hot-head stone a hundred come back  
For every rocket fired the drones come back

For thirteen years the roads have all been closed  
We're isolated. We're denied medical supplies  
Fuel and work are scarce. They build houses on our farms  
The old men weep. The young men take up arms.

We're packed like chickens in this town of block cement  
I get headache from the diesel. When it rains, the sewers too  
I had no idea what martyrdom meant  
Until my older brother. my older brother  
I'm sorry. I can't continue.

You sow the wind, you reap the whirlwind, it is said  
When people know they have no future  
Can we blame them if we cannot tame them?  
And when their hopes and dreams are broken  
And they feel they might as well be dead  
As they go, will we forgive them

If they take us with them?

Stay close  
Stay home  
Stay calm  
Have faith

With the love of our family we can rise above anything  
Someday surely someone must help us  
With the love of our family we can rise above anything  
Someday surely someone must help us  
Even now we will go to school  
Even now we will dream to dream  
Someday surely someone must help us

Nothing's ever simple - that's for sure  
There are grieving mothers on both sides of the wire  
And everyone deserves a chance to feel the future just might be bright  
But any way you look at it - whichever point of view  
For us to have to live like this  
It just aint right  
It just aint right  
It just aint right

We all want peace and freedom that's for sure  
But peace won't come from standing on our necks  
Everyone deserves a chance to feel the future just might be bright  
But any way you look at this - whichever point of view  
For us to have to live like this  
It just aint right  
It just aint right  
It just aint right

It's like a nightmare rose up slouching towards Bethlehem  
Like a nightmare rose up from this small strip of land  
Slouching towards Bethlehem

It's like a nightmare rose up from this small strip of land  
Slouching towards Bethlehem

Stay close  
Stay home  
Have faith

I can't know what twist of history did this to me  
It's like a nightmare

With the love of our family  
We can rise above anything  
Some day surely someone must help us...