

# Outside Looking In

Mary Chapin Carpenter

Everywhere I see the signs  
Pointin' one direction  
No more twists or crooked turns  
Leavin' room for doubt  
Where I used to take the time  
For quiet and reflection  
Now I only hear the noise  
Of what I am without

I see them walkin' hand in hand  
And my eyes just want to linger  
On those golden wedding bands  
Wrapped around their fingers  
By the time I turn away  
I feel it once again  
I'm back in this familiar place  
Outside lookin' in

Baby all the tears between us  
Couldn't fill the spaces  
And all the words we grasped at  
They just fell away  
I kept waiting on forgiveness  
To fix the broken places  
But nothing even like it  
Ever came my way

And tonight I drove around  
And the street came up before me  
I took a turn and then I found  
This old house comin' toward me  
Heard the sound a heart must make  
When a memory's cavin' in  
Oh baby, what a hungry place?  
Outside lookin' in

It's the hardest kind of need  
That never knows a reason  
Are we such a lonely breed  
Or just born in a lonely season?

May be it's all in the eyes  
It's where the reckoning begins  
It's where we linger like a sigh  
It's where we long to be pulled in  
It's where we learn to say goodbye  
Without saying anything  
Just standin' on the borderlines  
Outside looking in