

# This Is Love

Mary Chapin Carpenter

If you ever need to hear a voice  
In the middle of the night  
When it seems so black outside  
That you can't remember light  
Ever shone on you or the ones you love  
In this or another lifetime

And the voice you need to hear  
Is the true and the trusted kind  
With a soft, familiar rhythm  
In these swirling, unsure times  
When the waves are lapping in  
And you're not sure you can swim  
Well, here's the lifeline

If you ever need to feel a hand  
Take up your own  
When you least expect  
But want it more than you've ever known  
Baby, here's that hand  
And, baby, here's my voice that's calling  
This is love, all it ever was and will be  
This is love

And if you ever need some proof  
That time can heal your wounds  
Just step inside my heart  
And walk around these rooms  
Where the shadows used to be  
You can feel as well as see  
How peace can hover  
Now time's been here to fix  
What's broken with its power  
The love that smashed us both to bits  
Spent its last few hours  
Calling out your name  
I thought this is the kind of pain  
From which we don't recover

But I'm standing here now  
With my heart held out to you  
You would've thought a miracle  
Was all that got us through  
Well, baby, all I know  
All I know is I'm still standing  
And this is love, all it ever was and will be  
This is love

And I see you still  
And there's this catch in my throat  
And I just swallow hard till it leaves me  
There's nothing in this world  
That can change what we know  
Still I know I am here if you ever need me  
And this is love

And if you ever think of me

Let it be around twilight  
When the world has settled down  
And the last round of sunlight  
Is waning in the sky  
As you sit and watch the night descending  
A car will pass out front  
With lovers at the wheel  
A dog will bark out back  
And children's voices peal  
Over and under the air  
You've been there lost in the remembering  
And if you ever wish for things  
That are only in the past  
Just remember that the wrong things  
Aren't supposed to last  
Babe, it's over and done  
And the rest is gonna come when you let it

And this is love, all that it ever was and will be  
This is love, when you let it, if you let it now  
This is love, all it ever was and can be  
This is love