

## Porch Light

Ron Pope

The river that runs through my hometown  
used to freeze over in the winter.  
We'd go down to the waters edge  
with a jug of red wine  
And the girl I loved most of my life,  
she'd take my hand and with a smile  
we'd walk across the water to pass the time.

Her mother would pray with the porch light on so she could find  
her way.  
She said "If you don't believe than how can you make it through  
, if  
there's nothing but lies then how will my children learn to tel  
l the truth.  
If you don't believe darling what can you do, cause if nothing  
really  
matters, then what's the use"

About 5 days after I turned 16 she grabbed my face  
and swore to me this town will crush the life from all my dream  
s.  
So she stole the keys to her daddy's car  
and with fear in her eyes, she begged for my arms,  
but no matter what she said, i wasn't ready to leave.

And her father would wait, with the porch light on till she cou  
ld find her way.  
And he'd said "If you don't believe than how can you make it th  
rough, if  
there's nothing but lies then how will your children learn to t  
ell the  
truth. If you don't believe darling what can you do, cause if n  
othing  
really matters, then what's the use"

And the place they say I got my eyes  
is from a broken man who never smiled in pictures.  
He wouldn't know me on the street  
Now you can cross your heart a thousand times  
but most nights I'm left here wondering why I ever loved someon  
e  
who's so afraid of me.

I'd sit and I'd wait, for the porch light on till she comes bac  
k to me  
And I'd say, "If you don't believe than how can we make it thro  
ugh, if  
there's nothing but lies then how will our children learn to te

ll the  
truth. If you don't believe darling what can we do, cause if no  
thing  
really matters, I said, if nothing really matters, oh love if n  
othing really  
matters, then what's the use?"