Goodbye

Roy Harper

Your conscience rolls in torrents down each side of your face Your chair is full of silence, your hand is full of lace You moan that you should have been with him when the bullets Laid his head strange But it's always the living who fear the idea of the dead Goodbye I'll take my leave of all of you while you sit and wonder why

And you who stood around us and said that we were great Until your instant riches made us second rate Well you're the same old hangman who rationalises hope Whose right eye pats my children - whose left hand holds a case full of rope

He wears the sweeping landscape in the crystal of his eye And he jumps into the rainpools as the people pass him by The rubs the dusty ages across his tender brow He laughs and cries and sniffs and sight - it's four long summers now Goodbye We made our peace with all of you as you sat and wondered why

She walks the clover meadows in the dandelion days She throws her golden shadows across the silver haze She wanders with the swallows in the noonday passion plays She sits beneath the willow and she waits for me and twilight to come our ways