People Such as These

The Walkabouts

To begin, to begin, there is the first born He who is like a melon He who has a big nose He who doesn't know his name Because he drinks a lot And he's been drunk for a long time Does nothing with ten fingers He can do no more than that Completely cooked Sees himself as king Drunk every night On rotgut wine But you'll find him in the morning Sleeping in a church Stiff as a board White like the dove of Easter Sitting and stuttering Bleary eyed It must be said, sir, People such as these It must be said, sir, People such as these We do not think, We only pray

And then there is another With carrots in his hair Who never saw a wig a scamp with ticks Gives the shirt off his back To the happy poor He who married Denise A girl from the town Actually from another town And I've not finished

He does his little business With his little hat His little coat, his little car Wants us to believe, he has style But he has none at all We shouldn't play rich When we don't have the money People such as these We don't live, sir We just trick

And then there are the others The mother who says nothing Or spews, anything at all From evening to morning From beneath her pretty face A face like an apostle And in the wood frame The mustache of the father He who died in a fall He who watches his flock Graze on their cold soup He who makes big slurrps And now we see one of the very old Who doesn't stop shaking To whom nobody listens Though it's she who holds the cash But nobody listens To what her poor hands say It must be said, sir People such as these We don't speak, sir People such as these We just calculate

And then and then And then there's Frida Beautiful like the sun Who loves me the same Who I love Frida Even though we often said We would own a house With many windows and few walls That we would live there And it'd be the good life Of course none of it was sure thing At best there was a small chance Because the others didn't want it 'Cause the others didn't want it The others they talk like this They say she's too pretty for me They say I am only good enough To slit the throats of cats But I've never killed cats Or at least if I did, it was years ago Or maybe I just forgot Yes, if I did, it's because they stunk No, in the end they didn't want it No, in the end they didn't want it

Sometimes when we meet We act like it's a coincidence And with teary eyes She says she'll leave She says she'll follow me And for one moment Only one moment That's what I believe Just for one moment That's what I believe Because from people such as these We do not escape Because from people such as these We do not escape I gotta go, I gotta go I gotta go