Cardinal Directions

ThouShaltNot

I split the atom of one second Choosing history's lathe Each word summons now the next A master to his slave Countless links Within some silent chain And time becomes the sediment that drifts to algae Divorced from comets' trains

In the East a reflection Of the Western sunset North, South, pole to pole Turn back in regret And to the East I might stumble To the West I would crawl And if North is the winter Then South is the fall

And if I had my way I'd make the clock rewind I'd live again that moment Though I know I'll never find The future that I missed A parallel line Where the world would be so bright That it could make us all go blind

And if I had my day There's so much I'd reclaim The sanctity of motion The neverending rain The cardinal directions All pointing to the past Where realities converge And for a moment, we're the same

And magnets spin the compass In an embryonic flame Somewhere is the promise Of an uncharted trail With seven hundred branching limbs And seven hundred ways to fail To the East a reflection Of the new moon in the West Her timeless watch is quiet Over tides of her unrest To the North is the current Of a man breathing out Giving birth to the breeze To be inhaled in the South

And if I had my way I'd make the clock rewind I'd live again that moment Though I know I'll never find The future that I missed A parallel line Where the world would be so bright That it could make us all go blind

And if I had my day There's so much I'd reclaim The sanctity of motion The neverending rain The cardinal directions All pointing to the past Where realities converge And for a moment, we're the same as always