

# Darkling Down

Walter Becker

Well, along in the twenty first hour  
When the whole damn grid goes down  
This is how a party gets started  
In for a penny, in for a pound

All at once the whole joint goes quiet  
And all the wavy lines go straight  
One fool among fools is wondering  
What happens if I die too late?

Get back with your dime store nihilism  
Big daddy's on a glory run  
Gettin' down on the cellular level  
Just in case I got to call someone

Darkling down on a darkling plain  
In the dim dank night of the pissin'-down rain  
Darkling down on the balls of his ass  
While he prays and waits for the storm to pass

Lemme show you where the good thing happens  
It's a barbershop in Inglewood  
Too bad we won't get past the bouncer  
Sadly I've been banned for good

Well, there's a coffee shop right ?round the corner  
The proprietor knows my name  
Cup of Joe and a Vicks inhaler  
Now you're ready for the big boy game

Steady son come seven come eleven  
If either one of us can count that high  
Muscatel if the deal gets dicey  
Milk and honey in the by and by

Darkling down, it's a damn disgrace  
Going round and round in a very small place  
Darkling down with a hole in his soul  
That he can't explain and he can't control

For the fun or for the money  
For the fuck of it or just because  
Listen friend, this is no damn picnic  
But let's imagine for a minute that it was

Who will feast on this buzzard's banquet?  
Who will render my heroic bust?  
Who will choke on my lachrymose musings?  
Who will eat my zero dust?

Who will wear this puke-streaked tunic?  
Who shall gorge on this cup of spleen?  
Who will sing about the good, bad and ugly?  
And all and everything in between?

Darkling down, this is God's good man  
On his hands and knees livin' God's good plan

Darkling down and we don't know still  
When he'll come around if he ever will

Darkling down on a zero-G dive  
And we just can't say will the fool survive  
Darkling down in a seven-G turn  
Glowing like a coal in the after burn