

THE DECADE CYCLE

I. Forty

The light is fading,
The sky blue-black between the treetops,
And I'm running
From all the things I could not be.

I said farewell to joy long ago,
Sent her off on a train to Buffalo,
And she waved a white handkerchief out the window as it rumbled away.
And it was just another day.

It ain't so bad, this living,
Breathing in and breathing out;
I don't know what it's all about
But neither do you, baby.
Neither do you, baby.

And falling's not so hard when you're already down at the bottom.
I used to know so many things
But now they're all forgotten.

So how about you and me
Just take a minute and live in this Now;
How about you and me
Just float, baby?

A hawk is circling,
A lazy smudge against the clouds,
And I'm gazing
At all the things I'll never see.

There's nothing out here but the earth and the sky,
And we got nothing to do but live and die.
We don't need a reason why —

So how about you and me
Just take a minute and live in this Now;
How about you and me
Just float, baby?

II. Forty One

The crunch of leaves in the woods beneath my feet,
The solitary tread of my shoes down this abandoned street —
That's all I've got,
And that's all I need.
You can tell everybody I'm gone,
That I'm finally where I need to be.

And you can look outside,
And you can go downstairs,
And you can think of me from time to time,
But I'm trying hard not to care.

There's an overgrown track that meanders through a wood
Where some oleanders bloom,
And I'll take what comes whether it be for ill or good,
For fortune or for doom.

And you can look outside,
And you can come downstairs,
And whatever you've got to say to me,
It won't catch me unawares

'Cause I've been around,
I've been around —
I've seen sleepless nights and endless days,
I've been rescued,
I've been drowned.

'Cause I've been around,
Ain't we all been around?

The crunch of leaves in the woods beneath my feet,
The solitary tread of my shoes down this abandoned street —
That's all I've got,
And that's all I need.
That's all I've got,
And that's all I need.