

# The Thing About Things

[Amanda Palmer](#)

IÃ¢â¬Åve loaned a lot of things to a lot of friends  
Like records and dresses and books  
And a lot of the time I never see them again  
And in a weird way I think that that worksBecause the thing about things is they start turn evil  
When you start to forget what theyÃ¢â¬Åre for  
And so if youÃ¢â¬Åre not sure what you did with my sweater  
IÃ¢â¬Åll just have to love you a little bit moreI had a ring it belonged to my grandfather  
He was a mason and gay  
And he was distant and bitter for all of my childhood  
We never had much to sayHe wasnÃ¢â¬Åt the type to give tokens of affection  
So I stole ring when he died  
And then twenty years on when I lost it at a bar  
I thought thatÃ¢â¬Ås fine  
I don't want him in my lifeBecause the thing about things is that they can start meaning things  
Nobody actually said  
And if he couldnÃ¢â¬Åt make something mean something for me  
I had to make up what it meantI can carry everything I need in one collapsing suitcase  
I can carry everyone I love in one phone application  
Built to maximize the facetime of the friends IÃ¢â¬Åm bent on making  
Actually I want to be alone  
To mourn the loss  
Of what it costI think itÃ¢â¬Ås a poem and I think it keeps going  
And IÃ¢â¬Åve borrowed and loaned lots of things  
And 3 nights ago in the bar where I lost it the bartender gave me the ringI lie in bed  
With my phone in my hand  
Thinking what can I fix with which appAnd I call my grandfather  
And he doesnÃ¢â¬Åt answer  
And I have to make peace with that factBecause the thing about things  
Is that they can start meaning things nobody actually said  
And if youÃ¢â¬Åre not allowed to love people alive  
Then you learn how to love people deadThe thing about things is that they can start meaning things nobody  
actually saidAnd if youÃ¢â¬Åre not allowed  
To love people alive  
Then you learn how to love people dead

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