This Is Love

Mary Chapin Carpenter

If you ever need to hear a voice in the middle of the night
When it seems so black outside that you can't remember light
Ever shone on you or the ones you love in this or another lifetimeAnd the voice you need to hear is the true and the trusted kind

With a soft familiar rhythm in these swirling unsure times
When the waves are lapping in and you're not sure you can swim
Well, here's the lifelineIf you ever need to feel a hand take up your own
When you least expect but want it more than you've ever known
Baby here's that hand and baby here's my voice that's callingThis is love

This is loveIf you ever need some proof that time can heal your wounds

Just step inside my heart and walk around these rooms

All it ever was and will be

Where the shadows used to be

You can feel as well as see how peace can hoverNow time's been here to fix what's broken with its power

The love that smashed us both to bits, spent its last few hours

Calling out your name, I thought this is the kind of pain

From which we don't recoverBut I'm standing here now with my heart held out to you

You would've thought a miracle was all that got us through

Well baby, all I know, all I know is I'm still standingAnd this is love

All it ever was and will be

This is love

Standin' up for you baby, standin' up for meAnd I see you still and there's this catch in my throat
And I just swallow hard till it leaves me

There's nothing in this world that can change what we know
Still I know I am here if you ever need meAnd this is loveAnd if you ever think of me let it be around twilight
When the world has settled down

And the last round of sunlight is waning in the sky
As you sit and watch the night descending A car will pass out front with lovers at the wheel
A dog will bark out back

And children's voices peal over and under the air
You've been there lost in the rememberingIf you ever wish for things that are only in the past
Just remember that the wrong things aren't supposed to last
Babe, it's over and done and the rest is gonna come when you let itAnd this is love

All that it ever was and will be

This is love, when you let it babe, if you let it nowThis is love

All it ever was and can be

This is love

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