

I Watched the Film the Song Remains the Same

Sun Kil Moon

I watched the film The Song Remains the Same
At the midnight movies when I was a kid
At a Canton, Ohio mall with friends
One warm summer weekend Jimmy Page stood tall on screen
I was mesmerized by everything
The Peter Grant and John Paul Jones dream sequence scenes
The close-up of the mahogany double-neck SG And though I loved the sound of the roaring Les Paul
What spoke to me most was 'Rain Song' and 'Bron-Yr-Aur'
And I loved the thunder of Jon Bonham's drums
But even more I like "No Quarter's" low Fender Rhodes hum I don't know what happened or what anyone did
From my earliest memories I was a very melancholic kid
When anything close to me at all in the world died
To my heart, forever, it would be tied Like when my friend was thrown from his moped
When some kind of a big truck back-ended him
And when the girl who sat in front of me in remedial
Was killed in an accident one weekend and quickly forgotten about at school And when we got the call that my
grandmother passed
The nervous tension I'd been feeling for months broke
And strangely I laughed
Then I went to my bedroom and I lay down
And in my tears and in the heaviness of everything I drowned Though I kept to myself and for the most part was
pretty coy
I once got baited and had to clock some undeserving boy
Out on the elementary school playground
I threw a punch that caught him off-guard and knocked him down And when I walked away the kids were
cheering
And though I grinned, deep inside I was hurting
But not nearly as much as I'd hurt him
He stood up, his glasses broken and his face was red And I was never a schoolyard bully
It was only one incident and it has always eaten at me I was never the young schoolyard bully
And wherever you are, that poor kid, I'm so sorry And when I grew older I learned to play guitar
While everyone else was throwing around a football
Wearing bright colors the school issued them
Parroting passed down phrases and cheer leading I got a recording contract in 1992
From there my name, my band and my audience grew And since that time so much has happened to me
But I discovered I cannot shake melancholy
For 46 years now I cannot break the spell
I'll carry it through my life and probably carry it down I'll go to my grave with my melancholy
And my ghost will echo my sentiments for all eternity And now when I watch The Song Remains the Same

The same things speak to me that spoke to me then
Except that now the scenes with Peter Grant and John Bonham
Are different when I think of the deaths that fell upon them I got a friend who lives in the desert outside Santa Fe
I'm going to visit him this Saturday
Between my travels and his divorces and our time not being what it was
It's been 15 years since I last saw him He's the man who signed me back in '92
And I'm going to go there and tell him face-to-face, 'thank you'
For discovering my talent so early
For helping me along in this beautiful musical world I was meant to be in

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