In the Cage

Enos Slaughter

I got sunshine in my stomach
Like I just rocked my baby to sleep
I got sunshine in my stomach
But I can't keep me from creeping sleep
Sleep, deep in the deepRock face moves to press my skin
White liquid turn sour within
Turn fast, turn sour
Turn sweat, turn sour
Must tell myself that I'm not here
I'm drowning in a liquid fear
Bottled in a strong compression
My distortion shows obsessionIn the cave
Get me out of this cave!If I keep my self-control
I'll be safe in my soul
And the childhood belief
Brings a moment's relief
But my cynic soon returns
And the lifeboat burns
My spirit just never learnsStalactites, stalagmites
Shut me in, lock me tight
Lips are dry, throat is dry
Feel like burning, stomach churning
I'm dressed up in a white costume
Padding out leftover room
Body stretching, feel the retchingIn the cage
Get me out of the cageIn the glare of a light
I see a strange kind of sight
Of cages joined to form a star
Each person can't go very far
All tied to their things
They're netted by their strings
Free to flutter in memories of their wasted wingsOutside the cage I see my brother, John
He turns his head so slowly 'round
I cry out, 'Help" before he can be gone
And he looks at me without a sound
And I shout out, "John, please help me!"
But he does not even want to try to speak
I'm helpless in my violent rage
And a silent tear of blood dribbles down his cheek

And I watch him turn away and leave the cage
My little runawayRaindrops keep falling on my head
They keep falling on my
Raindrops keep falling on my head
They keep falling on my
Raindrops keep falling on myIn a trap, feel a strap
Holding still, pinned for kill
Chances narrow that I'll make it
In the cushioned straight-jacket
Just like 22nd Street
They got me by my neck and feet
Pressures building, can't take more
My headaches charge, earaches roarIn this pain
Get me out of this painIf I could change to liquid
I could fill the cracks up in the rocks
I know that I am solid
And I am my own bad luck
Outside John disappears and my cage dissolves
And without any reason my body revolvesKeep on turning
Keep on turning
Keep on turning
Keep on turning
Keep on turning
Turning around
Just spinning aroundRound
Round
Round
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