The Teacher

Paul Simon

There once was a teacher of great renown Whose words were like the tablets of stone Because it's easier to learn than unlearn Because we've passed the point of no return Gather your goods and follow me Or you will surely die I was only a child of the city My parents were children of immigrant stock So we followed as followers go Over the mountain with a napkin of snow And ate the berries and roots that grow along the timberline Deeper and deeper, the dreamer of love sleeps on a quilt of starsIt's cold Sometimes you can't catch your breath It's coldTime and abundance thickened his step So the teacher divided in two One half ate the forests and the fields The other half sucked all the moisture from the clouds And we, we were amazed at the power of his appetite Deeper and deeper the dreamer of love sleeps on a quilt of stars

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