Journeyman

Jethro Tull

Spine-tingling railway sleepers
Sleepy houses lying four-square and firm
Orange beams divide the darkness

Rumbling fit to turn the waking wormSliding through Victorian Tunnels

Where green moss oozes from the pores

Dull echoes from the wet embankments

Battlefield allotments, fresh open soresIn late night commuter madness

Double-locked black briefcase on the floor

Like a faithful dog with master

Sleeping in the draught beside the carriage doorTo each journeyman his own home-coming

Cold supper nearing with each station stop

Frosty flakes on empty platforms

Fireside slippers waiting, flip, flopAnd journeyman night-tripping on the late fantastic And too late to stop for tea at Gerard's Cross

And hear the soft shoes on the footbridge shuffle

As the wheels turn biting on the midnight frostOn the late commuter special

Carriage lights that flicker, fade and die

Howling into hollow blackness

Dusky diesel shudders in full cryDown redundant morning papers

Abandon crosswords with a cough

Stationmaster in his wisdom

Told the guard to turn the heating offAnd journeyman night-tripping on the late fantastic

And too late to stop for tea at Gerard's Cross

And hear the soft shoes on the footbridge shuffle

As the wheels turn biting on the midnight frost

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