The Undercover Man

Van der Graaf Generator

Here at the glass, all the usual problems
All the habitual farce

You ask in uncertain voice, what you should do

As if there were a choice but to carry on miming the song

And hope that it all works out rightTonight it all seems so strange

My spirit feels rigid, my body deranged

Still that's only from one point of view

And we can't have illusion between me and you

My constant friend, ever close at hand, you and the undercover manI will reflect, "It's very strange to be going through this change

With no idea of what it's all been about

Except in the context of time"

Oh, but I shirk it, I've half a mind not to work it all outIs this madness just the recurring wave of total emotion

Or a hide for the undercover man

Or a litany, all the signs are there of fervent devotion

Or the cracking of the dam? It's cracked, smashed and bursting over you

There was no reason to expect such disaster

Now panicking, you burst for air, drowning, you know you care

For nothing and no one but yourselfAnd would deny

Even this hand which stretches out towards you to helpBut would I leave you in this moment of your trial?

Is it my fault that I'm here to see you crying?

These phantom figures all around you should have told you

You should have found out by now

If you hadn't gone and tried to do it all by yourselfEven now we are not lost, if you look out at the night

You'll see the colors and the lights seem to say

People are not far away, at least in distance

And it's only our own dumb resistance that's making us stayWhen the madness comes

Let it flood on down and over me sweetly

Let it drown the parts of me, weak and blessed and damned

Let it slake my life, let it take my soul and living completely

Let it be who I amThere may not be time for us all to run in tandem together

The horizon calls with its parallel lines

It may not be right for you to have and hold in one way forever

And yet you still have time, you still have time[Incomprehensible]

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