

Happy End

Kate Tempest

'Everybody Down!
He'll be here in a second, I reckon'
And Becky beckoned them round
And made them get on their knees
 Behind the bar
 They held their breath
And stifled gigglesCrouched down
 Like a twenty-headed beast
 That writhed and wriggled
 'Happy Birthday, Pete!
 Another year older, eh?'
 'I never expected a thing
 I don't know what to say.'

Harry couldn't look at the way
 Pete held Becky's hands
Still he passed him a beer and said
'Well, there you go, big man.'Harry, this is Ron
 Ron, this is Harry, my brother
 You guys should really talk to one another
 Ron runs the caff and
Harry's starting up a place up of his own if he can.'
 They raised their glasses up
 'Good to meet you, Ron.'
 'Ah, pleasure's all mine.'

Ron looks into Harry's eyes and recognises how they shine
 Harry. He says the name to himself
Before he's led away and introduced to someone else'Becky, this is Dale,'
 Pete's drunk now, warm inside
 Dale's awkward with a sort of
 Distorted and cautious pride on his face
 'Actually, we've met'
 'Really? I'm sorry,' says Becky
 'Don't pretend that you forgot me already?'
 'Where'd you meet?' says Pete
 Big smile, white teeth
 'She was working, you remember
 It was you that made me ring her?'
 It hits Pete, like a fist
 Where every finger wears a ring

He couldn't blink or breathe or think or anything'Yeah, you remember?

The twenty-third of November

I met you in the Hotel Hacienda

We had a couple drinks

You knew the bartender

You had a Whisky Sour

And I had a MonumentaWe went up in the lift

They was playing Enya

That made you laugh

You said that Enya sent ya round the bend

Pete was scared that you'd been sleeping with men

So he asked me to investigate

Now, in your defense

You was very professional

I was very tense

But I have to say my favorite part

Was the Happy End.'Ron was in the toilets, washing his hands

When he heard what sounded like a man

Sniffing a whole gram

In one go

Harry walked out of the cubicle, 'Oh!

Alright, Ron?'

Ron tapped his nose

'You ain't got a spare line?'

Harry smiled, 'No sweat.'

Handed him the wrap and said, 'I'm going for a cigarette

I'll meet you at the bar, mine's a pint of Sea View.'

Ron only had to look at the coke

And he knewShe was dumbstruck

She could feel herself going numb

Clutched thumbs in her fists

Felt unstuck

'This is wrong!

Fuck this!'

Her stomach heaved

'You set me up

Instead of just talking to me?

What about trust?'

Guts twisted

Pete was stuck to the spot, his lips shifted

He couldn't make a soundDale stood still, calm

Pete stared dumb

Reached out, touched her armShe shook it off

So livid, so hurt

She walked away without saying another word

He was about to follow
But saw Dale hiding a smile
Then he couldn't help it
He saw red, he went wild'Alright, look, son
I know we've come to have a party
So have a couple of drinks
And a dance with your auntie
But hear this
Let's clear this up right now
Your numbers are up, son

I have found you outYou don't know who I work for
Men who have hurt more
Men than the world wars
When you were first born
They were killing men who were worth more
Than ten of your kind

Are you out of your mind?Look, don't worry, son
I'm in no hurry, son
I'll have you on the run
Like a funny curry, son
Go back inside and make sure
Your brother's having fun
Just know this:

Any day now, I'll be coming son.'Becky ran out to the street feeling weak
She took a breathHeart slamming its head against the wall of her chest
She looked to her left
Saw Ron, shoulders squared
Talking to Harry

Harry looked awkward, scared'What's this, mother's meeting?
Come on, Harry, need your help.'
She walked him off as Ron watched
Harry felt himself melt
'Becky,' he began
But he couldn't finish
He fiddled with a cigarette
Held it between his fingers
'What's up?'

She didn't need to ask, she could feel it there
'You got yourself in trouble with my Uncle?'

'Yeah'He stared at the skyline
He tried find the right words
'I gotta leave town
And tonight at the latest.'

They stopped walking, turned
Looked into each other's faces

'And I want you to come with me.'

Time stopped

Harry waited She said nothing

She raised her eyebrows

Like he did on the night they met

In this way they spoke at length

And his heart heard what her eyes said He said nothing

He just felt and hoped that he was understood

Then she felt something in her melt

And lightning flashed and thunder shook He stared at her until she heard him

Felt an energy go surging through her person

Something in his eyes

She felt her body bursting She kissed him

And it reached a part of her that had been sleeping

And she felt his heart beating in her own

She felt complete and so known They didn't speak

Ran down the street

Leon had the motor running

And they jumped in the back seat

Becky felt peace when she looked at his face

'Lets us three get on a plane and open up Harry's Place'

He stared at her, 'Really?'

She nodded, his pulsed raced

He reached down beside him

Brought out a suitcase

Stuffed full of cash

Leon smiled at them both

'Let's fucking do it,' He said

Away they drove Dale and Pete

Were in a pile of trainers and feet

Clenched fists and black eyes and chipped teeth

Their dads had tried

To get in-between them

It was like they couldn't wait to get involved

Graham was beating David's skull with his elbows

David was kneeing Graham's nether regions

And Miriam was at the bar weeping

Ron was pleased as punch

With the outcome of the evening

While Becky, Harry and Leon headed for the beyond Off to Dover for the ferry

And from there, wherever

Harry looked at Becky

'Let's feel this way forever?' Off to Dover for the ferry

And from there, wherever

Harry looked at Becky, said

'Let's feel this way forever!'

Songwriters

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