The Double Life

Siouxsie and the Banshees

At the top of the stairs is a locked room
My secret chamber that no outsider views
For entry is forbidden prohibited
Behind this door is my other selfNot a picture in a frame nor a fresh disguise
But my other self, immobile inert and sanguine
My narcissus kisses exhale crimson breath
And pump ruby to the lipI stand before myself not Jekyll nor Hyde
Not sibling nor twin separated at birth

I stand before myself unaccountable I dreamt that I had feet of clay

I dreamt I crossed the seven seas And when I woke not knowing

I knew I led the double lifeAll I ever needed is twice removed

I spit my bile in an airless temper In this vacuum a vampire reversed

This one who breathes life into meAnd even dull mirrors reflect the tarnished twosome

I stand before myself not another me
Not doppelganger nor witless clone
I stand before myself unrepentantI dreamt of sin and aftermath
I dreamt of centuries laid bare
And when I woke not knowing

Songwriters
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I knew I led the double life

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