

The Beast Within

Jim Carroll

If give me your ear
I'll whisper you wind that could soothe your burnt blood
The door is right here
Breathing the air filled with powders and porn
Now comes the dawnIf I release the dove
Would it betray the sky and return to your cage
In the river above
Can I fold back the pages and just take one look
Into your jungle bookRefrain: some say it's a lie, some say it's a sin
Do you know how it ends if you won't let it begin?
You feel it waking now beneath your skin
You can't live without the beast withinIf you lift up your veil
Then I'll finish the features that aren't quite done
How could we fail
With all the miraculous masks that we wear
In shadows and staresLet's seal out the dare
Your eyes like morning, naked and wet
What price will we pay?
Now think back and tell me how we ever got here
Such tender yearsSome say it's a lie, some say it's a sin . . .

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