

# Carnival

## Nora Jane Struthers

Take me to the carnival  
let me ride the rides  
buy me a red balloon and  
some sweet potato fries  
I don't care how long we stay  
as long as we can see  
everything there is to see I want to see the bearded lady in her yellow dress  
I want to pray for the man on the highwire  
I want to gawk at the grizzly bear's arabesque  
and the man whose breathing fire  
how does a man breathe fire? Take me to the carnival  
I want to see the sideshows  
I think they are beautiful  
There goes the world's tallest Man  
he has trouble finding places to stand so  
they built a tent especially for him I want to see the Fiji mermaid swimming in her tank  
taste the briny water she splashes with her tail  
Watch the Siamese twins as they glide and sway  
there goes a man with a bed of nails  
what good is a bed of nails?

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