

Songs in Red and Gray

Suzanne Vega

The reproach on your daughter's most beautiful face
Made me wonder just how she could know
Of that something that happened between you and me
So much more than a long time ago Her mother, I can see, lives within her still
'Cause she looked at me with her eyes
Though I had only just met her right then
I feel that she peeled back my guilty disguise Did I break the thread, or did you break the thread?
Well, at this point we could ask who cares
As for the promises broken and frayed
Well, it's 19 years late for repairs The gray pewter vase held the deep red rose
One piece of coral shone white
By the brass candlestick near your red velvet coat
Is everything I can recall of one night Will you please tell me why I remember these things
After all of this time, I don't know
I must have left all those feelings inside
'Cause that year I had no courage to show Was I the name you could never pronounce?
Or did I even figure at all?
All of this happened before she was born
Did I shadow her young pencil marks on the wall Still I am sure I was only but one
Of a number who darkened that door
Of your home and your hearth and your family and wife
Who'd been darkened so often before And the red leaf looks to the hard gray stone
To each other, they know what they mean
Somewhere, their future is still yet to come
In ways that are yet as of now unforeseen

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