Sanctuary

Ian Anderson

Dear uncle, sold her into
Into the purest kind of slavery
Put-out little middlemen profited
From damaged goods along the wayGood angels brought her back
To a last Nepal summer
Debased and horror-faced

A smile might become herNow, she's cozied up, cozied up

And comforted in the warm flesh of SeptemberGone before winter, wondering as to might-have-beens

Somebody's daughter in sanctuary, waitingSeen through softer cage of kindness

Far and further, still away

From time-warp Victorian zoos

Where staring ice cream gameboys playBig paws, worn claws and swishing tails

More damaged goods in the market sales

Too proud for anger, too late for hate

Resigned in dignityGone before winter, purring might-have-beens Somebody's kitten in sanctuary, waitingGone before winter, wondering as to might-have-beens Somebody near you in sanctuary, waiting

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