

# Civil Twilight

[Mike Garrigan](#)

My confusion cornered commuters  
Are cursing the cold away  
As December tries to dissemble  
The length of their working day  
And they bite their mitts off  
To show me transfers, deposit change  
And I can't stop finding your face  
In their faces all rearranged  
And angry like you never were  
And I ease us back into traffic  
Dusk comes on and I wonder  
Why I'm always remembering you  
At civil twilight  
For the most part I think  
About golfing and constantly calculate  
All the seconds left in the minutes  
And so on, etcetera  
Or recite the names of provinces  
And Hollywood actors  
Oh, Ontario, oh, Jennifer Jason Leigh  
But this part of the day bewilders me  
Streets slow down and ice over  
Dusk comes on and I struggle  
To stop, to stop, to stop thinking of you  
At civil twilight  
Hey, every other hour I pass that house  
Where you told me that you had to go  
I wonder if the landlord has fixed the crack  
That I stared at instead of staring back at you  
My chance to say something  
Seemed so brief but it wasn't  
Now I know I had plenty of time  
Between the sunset and certified darkness  
Dusk comes on and I follow  
The exhaust from memory up to the end  
At civil twilight  
At civil twilight  
At civil twilight

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