Fish, Incubus

When footlights dim in reverence to prescient passion Forwarned my audience leaves the stage, floating ahead Perfumed shift, within the stammering silence The face that launched a thousand frames Betrayed by a porcelain tear, a stained career You've played this scene before, you've played this scene before I, the mote in your eye, I, the mote in your eye, a misplaced reaction, reaction The darkroom unleashes imagination, in pornographic images In which you will always be the star Untouchable, unapproachable Constant in the darkness, in the darkness Nursing an erection, a misplaced reaction With no flower to place before this gravestone And the walls become enticingly newspaper thin But that would only be developing the negative view And you have to be exposed in voyeuristic color, the public act Let you model your shame on the mannequin catwalk, catwalk Let the cats walk I've played, this scene before, I've played, this scene before I, the mote in your eye, I, the mote in your eye, a misplaced reaction, satisfaction You can't brush me under the carpet, you can't hide me under the stairs The custodian of your private fears, your leading actor of yesteryear Who, as you crawled out of the alleys of obscurity Sentenced to rejection in the morass of anonymity You, who I directed with a lover's will, you who I let hypnotize the lens You who I let bathe in the spotlight's glare You who wiped me from your memory like a greasepaint mask Just like a greasepaint mask But now I'm the snake in the grass The ghost of film reels past The producer of your nightmare And the performance has just begun, Its just begun Begun, Its just begun Your perimeter of courtiers jerk like celluloid puppets As you stutter, paralyzed, with rabbit's eyes Searing the shadows, flooding the wings To pluck elusive salvation from the understudy's lips Retrieve the soliloguy, maintain the obituary My cue line in the last act, and you'll wait in silent solitude Waiting for the prompt, waiting for the prompt, waiting for the prompt. You've played this scene before