## Noe Venable, Black Madonna

Black Madonna will come down for you
With open arms and a veil to hide her face
And Black Madonna will come down for you
And there is no sickness and there is no suffering
And there is no anguish and no anger that she cannot erase

You might see Black Madonna walking between the sheets of an angry day Or you might see her smile a strange-sad smile as she steps out of your way Or you might not see her at all But she might be coming down for you With her arms spread wide and her head on fire cause she sees you been down so long

There isn't a sin that you could make that she will not forgive

But oh, Black Madonna, I did not believe her beauty
I thought I did not need her mercy
I thought I did not need
Traded my belongings and my body
My memory and my mind
My center of gravity and my sense of direction
til I woke up half an hour from the city
And realized I had lost all sense of the passage of time
So I don't know if it's been a day or a week or a year
All I know is I'm still here
And I always thought you'd lift me up
And you never did
What the f\*\*k?

>>there isn't a sin that you could make That she will not forgive No there isn't a sin that you could make In the ways that a stray must live

So what I wanna know is this

If you believe in everything fitting into a kind of place

If you believe that everything and everybody has a certain space they fit into"babies entering And the sick yes even the sick just a shuffling into sleep's dark brother

And the sleepers in the sleet

The heaps in the street

Nestled under trestles for to get a little heat

And if the trestles watch over the sleepers

And if life ushers her lucky winners

Through fleshy gates to four star dinners

And if sleep ushers his population

To plug into the dream life radio station

And if thin souls whose bodies haven't wrecked them

Walk smoky streets that know and expect them

Then what I want to know is this"

What of strays who have turned their backs on the god of strays?

>>what of strays who've turned their backs On the god of strays, yeah, what of them?

Oh Black Madonna I was thinking about the days that I spent with you cause now I doze and daze and drown
And cling to the wreckage of a sinking town
And I walk your dire streets in search of anything that's still pure cause I once thought you watched over me
But now I'm not so sure