

Belle & Sebastian, Nobody's Empire

Lying on my bed I was reading french
With the light too bright for my senses
From this hiding place, life was way too much
It was loud and rough round the edges
So I faced the wall when an old man called
Out of dreams that I would die there
But a sight unseen, you were pulling strings
And you had a different idea

I was like a child, I was light as straw
When my father lifted me up there
Took me to a place where they checked my body
My soul was floating in thin air
I clung to the bed, and I clung to the past
And I clung to the welcome darkness
But at the end of the night
There's a green green light
It's the quiet before the madness
There was a girl that sang like the chime of a bell
She put out her arm and she touched me when I was in hell

Someone sang a song and I sang along
Cause I knew the words from my childhood
Intellect, ambition they fell away
They locked me up for my own good
But I didn't mind cause the silence was kind
And you spoke to me in whispers
There was the sound of the wind in the cold cold dawn
And the quiet hum of business
Let me dangle a while in this waiting room
I don't need to go I don't need to know what your doing

Lying on my side you were half awake and your face was tired and crumpled
If I had a camera I'd snap you now cos there's beauty in every stumble
We are out of practise we're out of sight
On the edge of nobody's empire
If we live by books and we live by hope
Does that make us targets for gunfire?

Now I look at you you're a mother of two
You're a quiet revolution
Marching with the crowd singing dirty and loud
For the people's emancipation
Did I do ok, did I pave the way
Was I strong when you were wanting
I was tied to the yoke with a decent bloke
Who was stern but never daunting
And he told me to push and he made me feel well
And he told me to leave that vision of hell to the dying