

Clashing Shadows (Spoken Word Text, written by Samuel LaGrego)

Life is a double-edged sword
A blessing and a curse
A procrastination avoiding the guaranteed encounter
With one of two infinities

You are either destined to die
Or you never die

You either lose your consciousness forever,
Never to see, hear, or feel anything ever again

Or you keep living *forever*
As an immortal being in an afterlife
Of clear skies and golden clouds
Courtesy of whichever god turns out to be correct

You keep seeing, and hearing, and feeling
Until the end of time itself
Prompting an inescapable experience
Of immeasurable dullness
Eternal restlessness
And unbearable pain

So, this double-edged sword
Ever bound to our collective hand
It presents to us a mandatory choice

Which edge of the sword will we be forced to brandish?
Upon which doomed fate shall we embark?

What are we supposed to do then?
How can we even begin to confront these infinities
When they are so far beyond the scope of our understanding?

We keep living.

We may never fully understand, but that's okay
We're lucky enough to exist
In this beautiful middleground between the voids
Between birth and death
So it's what we're here to do
We must live on.

Every Night When the Sun Goes Down (Traditional Text, edited by Gwyneth Walker)

Every night
When the sun goes down

Every night
When the sun goes down

Every night
When the sun goes down

I hang my head
And mournful cry

True love don't weep
True love don't mourn

True love don't weep
True love don't mourn

True love don't weep
Or mourn for, mourn for me

The Lord has come
To set me free

And every night, and every night, and every night, and every night
And every night, and every night, and every night, and every night

I pray the Lord
My train would come

I pray the Lord
My train would come

I pray the Lord
My train would come

To take me back
Where I come from

True love don't weep
True love don't mourn

Samuel LaGrego Graduating Student Recital
Program Texts

True love don't weep
True love don't mourn

True love don't weep
Or mourn for, mourn for me

The Lord has come
To set me free

And every night, and every night, and every night, and every night
And every night, and every night, and every night, and every night
And every night, and every night, and every night, and every night

And when I rise
Up in the sky

And when I rise
Up in the sky

If you look up quickly
You can see me passing by
On wings of silver
I will fly

If you look up quickly
You can see me passing, passing, passing by

On wings of silver
On wings of silver
On wings of silver
I will fly

Fly, on wings of
Of silver, I
Will fly

I will fly