



Requiem for London after the Riots *

I like to dream, (...yes, yes...)
right between my sound machine.
After that hot gospeller has levelled
all but the churched sky,
On a cloud of sound I drift in the night.

Any place it goes is right.
Goes far...
Flies near...
to the stars away from here. Well,
I wrote the tale by tallow
of a city's death by fire;

you don't know what
we can find.
Under a candle's eye,
Why don't you come with me, little girl,
on a magic carpet ride.
that smoked in tears,
You don't know what
we can see. |

Wanted to tell,
Why don't you tell
your dreams to me:
in more than wax,
Fantasy will set you free.
Close your eyes, girl.
Look inside, girl.

Let the sound of faiths that were snapped like wire.
take you away. All day
I walked abroad among the rubble tales,
Shocked at each wall
that stood on the street like a liar;

Last night I held Aladdin's lamp and
so I wished that I could stay.
Loud was the bird-rocked sky,
and all the clouds were bales
Torn open by looting,
and white,

Before the thing could answer me, well,
someone came and took the lamp away.
I looked
around...
A lousy candle's all I found. Well,

in spite of the fire.
By the smoking sea,
you don't know what
we can find.
where Christ walked,
I asked, why
Why don't you come with me, little girl,
on a magic carpet ride. Well,

Should a man wax tears,
when his wooden world fails?
you don't know what
we can see.
In town, leaves were paper,
but the hills were a flock of faiths;
Why don't you tell your dreams to me:
Fantasy will set you free.

Close your eyes, girl.
Look inside, girl.
To a boy who walked all day,
each leaf was a green breath
Rebuilding a love
I thought was dead as nails,

Let the sound take you away.
Blessing the death
and the baptism by fire.

* Pastiche by /cual © (2011). All lines in Times New Roman font are from the song "Magic Carpet Ride" –written by John Kay and Rushton Moreve from *Steppenwolf* (1968). All lines in Arial font are from the poem "A City's Death By Fire" by Derek Walcott, from *In a Green Light* (1962).