Visions of Johanna

Bob Dylan

Ain't it just like the night to play tricks when you're tryin' to be so quiet? We'll sit here stranded though we're all doing our best to deny it And Louise holds a handful of rain Tempting you to defy itLights flicker from the opposite loft In this room the heat pipes just cough The country music station plays soft But there's nothing, really nothing to turn offJust Louise And her lover, so entwined And these visions of Johanna That conquer my mindIn the empty lot where the ladies play blind man's bluff with the key chain And the all-night girls, they whisper of escapades out on the D Train We can hear the nightwatchman click his flashlight Ask himself if it's him or them that's insane Louise, she's alright, she's just near Like silk she's delicate and seems like the mirror But she makes it all to concise and clear That Johanna's not hereThe ghost of electricity Howls in the bones of her face Where these visions of Johanna Have now taken my placeNow, little boy lost, he takes himself so seriously He brags of his misery, he likes to live dangerously And when bringing her name up He speaks of a farewell kiss to meHe's sure got a lot of gall To be so useless and all Muttering small talk at the wall While I'm in the hall Oh, how can I explain? It's so hard to get on And these visions of Johanna They've kept me up past the dawnInside the museums, infinity goes up on trial Voices echo this is what salvation must be like after a while But Mona Lisa must have had the highway blues You can tell by the way she smilesSee the primitive wallflower freeze When the jelly-faced women all sneeze Hear the one with the mustache say "Jeez, I can't find my knees"Both jewels and binoculars Hang from the head of the mule But these visions of Johanna They make it all seem so cruelThe peddler now speaks to the countess who's pretending to care for him Saying, "Name me someone that's not a parasite and I'll go out and say a prayer for him"

But like Louise always says "You can't look at much, can you man?" as she herself prepares for himMy Madonna, she still has not showed We see this empty cage now corrode Where her cape of the stage once had flowed The fiddler, he now steps to the road He writes "Everything's been returned which was owed" On the back of the fish truck that loads While my conscience explodesThe harmonicas play The skeleton keys and the rain And these visions of Johanna Are now all that remain Song Discussions is protected by U.S. Patent 9401941. Other patents pending.

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