

Bread and **Circuses.**

Anne Iredale.

TASTER



Smoke and mirrors

You fooled me with smoke and mirrors,
Sleight of hand,
Things concealed,
Secret compartments,
Cards up sleeves.
Forever pulling rabbits out of the hat.
We never knew you were going to do *that*.
Twinkle of the eye,
Flick of the wrist
And there you are
In the mist,
In a horse drawn carriage floating by.
I dreamt someone else would die.
Yet, here you are,
Attending a black tie event in the sky.
The doorman tips his top hat.
I never knew you were going to do *that*.
Which tumbler is the pea under,
Tricks too quick for the eye,
A bang and a flash of thunder,
The ace of spades lands with a sigh.
You fooled me with smoke and mirrors,
I felt I should disappear,
Perhaps I was never really here.
It's a life sawn in half,
As the mist begins to clear.
You made me feel invisible,

Perhaps *you* were never really here.
One last curtain call, to fool them all,
A broken watch that still keeps time.
Pennies on your eyes to cover up your lies.
They cut you open and couldn't find a soul,
A life sawn in half and nowhere else to go.

Evergreen

We speak of many things,
Holy, dark forest things,
Whisper by the moon things,
Promises on wings,
Secrets left by the oak tree,
Huge and noble,
Splash me with your sun happy stream,
I am yours.
I am evergreen.

Surf's up

(for Brian Wilson)

With thanks to Richard Rodgers

Our summers measured in your heartbeat,
Shadows falling across the sun,
The ocean never seemed so blue
And the world was never so young.

Harmonies as delicate as lace
Tore our hearts apart.
Piano in a sandpit,
Full of hope and dread.

The sweetest sound you ever heard was still inside your head.

Surf's Up.

The angels are singing.

With your feet in the sand
And your head in the stars,
You just weren't made for these times.

We put our heads on your shoulder
As the ocean lapped over your brain.
Sometimes you have to lose reality to find it again.

Surf's Up.

Brothers are gone.

The waves bring an echo of a half remembered song.
And now we are older
And we try to remember
How blue is the ocean,
When shadows fall across the sun
And the world is not so young.

