

# The Magic Beads

Jane Siberry

I reached the desert as the sun was rising  
On the day that you were passing through  
The caravan you travelled in was crowded  
I didn't like the people around you  
Those people hushed me when I tried to call you  
They pushed me back and would not let me through  
And these thin arms weren't strong enough to part them  
So back into the roadside rocks I withdrew  
Sometimes I am nervous when the night comes  
I hear so many noises that are new  
But I try not to think of you too often  
I try not to use the beads you threw  
Oh babe I conjured you up by mistake  
I know that I'm supposed to wait  
But when will I see you again  
In daytime I do dances for the tourists  
I strike a pose I hope they can't ignore  
My hope is to attract your caravan to me  
And then beat them to your side before they know  
Oh babe I'm really sitting by the road  
I hug my knees and hope that I'll see you  
I made up that bit about the dances  
But it keeps me from using the beads you threw  
Oh babe I conjured you up by mistake  
I know that I'm supposed to wait  
But when will I see you again  
Your caravan told me I was not one of them  
Because the way I talked was not part of their school  
I made too much fun of California  
Well--I made too much fun of paper tools  
You yourself--you told me not to join them  
You said I would do better where I was  
But is this really true--I get so lonely  
The only wine that fills me up is you  
Oh babe I conjured you up by mistake  
I know that I'm supposed to wait  
But when will I see you again  
I am not as nervous when the night comes  
And darkness falls among these desert rocks  
Even though I still touch your beads and wish for you  
Waiting becomes easier than not  
Oh babe I conjured you up by mistake  
I know that I'm supposed to wait  
I just wanted to see you again  
But when will I see you again  
when?