

# The Double Life

Siouxsie and the Banshees

At the top of the stairs is a locked room  
My secret chamber that no outsider views  
For entry is forbidden  
Prohibited

Behind this door is my other self  
Not a picture in a frame nor a fresh disguise  
But my other self  
Immobile, inert and sanguine  
My narcissus kisses exhale crimson breath  
And pump ruby to the lip

I stand before myself not Jekyll nor Hyde  
Not sibling nor twin separated at birth  
I stand before myself  
Unaccountable

I dreamt that I had feet of clay  
I dreamt I crossed the seven seas  
And when I woke not knowing  
I knew I led the double life

All I ever needed is twice removed  
I spit my bile in an airless temper  
In this vacuum - a vampire reversed  
This one who breathes life into me  
And even dull mirrors reflect the tarnished twosome

I stand before myself not another me  
Not doppelgänger nor witless clone  
I stand before myself unrepentant

I dreamt of sin and aftermath  
I dreamt of centuries laid bare  
And when I woke not knowing  
I knew I led the double life