When I was seventeen,
it was a very good year.
It was a very good year
for small town girls and soft summer nights.
We'd hide from the light
on the village green when I was seventeen.

When I was twenty-one, it was a very good year. It was a very good year for city girls who lived up the stairs With perfume hair that came undone when I was twenty-one.

When I was thirty-five, it was a very good year. It was a very good year for blue-blooded girls of independent means. We'd ride in limousines. Their chauffeurs would drive when I was thirty-five.

But now the days are short,
 I'm in the autumn of the year
And now I think of my life as vintage wine from fine old kegs
From the brim to the dregs.
 It poured sweet and clear. It was a very good year.