

## Take This Longing

Many men  
 have loved the bells  
 you fastened to the rein,  
 and everyone who wanted  
 you  
 they found what they will always want again.  
 Your beauty lost to you  
 yourself  
 just as it was lost to them.

Oh take this longing from my  
 tongue,  
 whatever useless things these hands have done.  
 Let me see your  
 beauty broken down  
 like you would do for one you love.

Your body  
 like a searchlight  
 my poverty revealed,  
 I would like to try your charity  
 until you cry, "Now you must try my greed."  
 And everything depends  
 upon  
 how near you sleep to me

Just take this longing from my tongue  
 all the lonely things my hands have done.  
 Let me see your beauty broken down  
 like you would do for one your love.

Hungry as an archway  
 through  
 which the troops have passed,  
 I stand in ruins behind you,  
 with your winter  
 clothes, your broken sandal straps.  
 I love to see you naked over there  
 especially from the back.

Oh take this longing from my tongue,  
 all  
 the useless things my hands have done,  
 untie for me your hired blue gown,  
 like you would do for one that you love.

You're faithful to the better  
 man,  
 I'm afraid that he left.  
 So let me judge your love affair  
 in  
 this very room where I have sentenced  
 mine to death.  
 I'll even wear these  
 old laurel leaves  
 that he's shaken from his head.

Just take this  
 longing from my tongue,  
 all the useless things my hands have done,  
 let  
 me see your beauty broken down,  
 like you would do for one you love.

**Like you would do for one you love.**