

**ceremonials**



FLORENCE + THE MACHINE



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ceremonials



"Only If For A Night"

And I had a dream  
 About my old school  
 And she was there all pink and gold and  
 glittering  
 I threw my arms around her legs  
 Came to weeping (came to weeping)

And I heard your voice  
 As clear as day  
 And you told me I should concentrate  
 It was all so strange  
 And so surreal  
 That a ghost should be so practical  
 Only if for a night

And the only solution was to stand and fight  
 And my body was bruised and I was set alight  
 But you came over me like some holy rite  
 And although I was burning, you're the only light  
 Only if for a night

And the grass was so green against my new  
 clothes  
 And I did cartwheels in your honour  
 Dancing on tiptoes  
 My own secret ceremonials  
 Before the service began  
 In the graveyard doing handstands

And I heard your voice  
 As clear as day  
 And you told me I should concentrate  
 It was all so strange  
 And so surreal  
 That a ghost should be so practical  
 Only if for a night

And the only solution was to stand and fight  
 And my body was bruised and I was set  
 alight  
 But you came over me like some holy rite  
 And although I was burning, you're the only  
 light  
 Only if for a night

Madam, my dear, my darling  
 Tell me what all the sighing's about  
 Tell me what all the sighing's about

And I heard your voice  
 As clear as day  
 And you told me I should concentrate  
 It was all so strange  
 And so surreal  
 That a ghost should be so practical  
 Only if for a night

Only if for a night

## "Shake It Out"

Regrets collect like old friends  
Here to relive your darkest moments  
I can see no way, I can see no way  
And all of the ghouls come out to play

And every demon wants his pound of flesh  
But I like to keep some things to myself  
I like to keep my issues drawn  
It's always darkest before the dawn

And I've been a fool and I've been blind  
I can never leave the past behind  
I can see no way, I can see no way  
I'm always dragging that horse around

All of his questions, such a mournful sound  
Tonight I'm gonna bury that horse in the ground  
So I like to keep my issues drawn  
But it's always darkest before the dawn

Shake it out, shake it out, shake it out, shake it  
out, ooh whoa (x2)  
And it's hard to dance with a devil on your back  
So shake him off, oh whoa

And I am done with my graceless heart  
So tonight I'm gonna cut it out and then restart  
'Cause I like to keep my issues drawn  
It's always darkest before the dawn

Shake it out, shake it out, shake it out,  
shake it out, ooh whoa (x2)  
And it's hard to dance with a devil on your  
back  
So shake him off, oh whoa

And it's hard to dance with a devil on your  
back  
And given half the chance would I take any  
of it back  
It's a fine romance but it's left me so  
undone  
It's always darkest before the dawn

Oh whoa, oh whoa...

And I'm damned if I do and I'm damned if  
I don't  
So here's to drinks in the dark at the end  
of my road  
And I'm ready to suffer and I'm ready to  
hope  
It's a shot in the dark aimed right at my  
throat  
'Cause looking for heaven, found the devil  
in me (x2)  
Well what the hell I'm gonna let it happen  
to me, yeah





"What The Water Gave Me"

Time it took us  
 To where the water was  
 That's what the water gave me  
 And time goes quicker  
 Between the two of us  
 Oh, my love, don't forsake me  
 Take what the water gave me

Lay me down  
 Let the only sound  
 Be the overflow  
 Pockets full of stones

Lay me down  
 Let the only sound  
 Be the overflow

And oh, poor Atlas  
 The world's a beast of a burden  
 You've been holding up a long time  
 And all this longing  
 And the ships are left to rust  
 That's what the water gave us

So lay me down  
 Let the only sound  
 Be the overflow  
 Pockets full of stones  
 Lay me down  
 Let the only sound

Be the overflow  
 'Cause they took your loved ones  
 But returned them in exchange for you  
 But would you have it any other way?  
 Would you have it any other way?  
 You couldn't have it any other way

'Cause she's a cruel mistress  
 And a bargain must be made  
 But oh, my love, don't forget me  
 When I let the water take me

So lay me down  
 Let the only sound  
 Be the over flow  
 Pockets full of stones

Lay me down  
 Let the only sound  
 Be the overflow

So lay me down  
 Let the only sound  
 Be the overflow  
 Pockets full of stones

Lay me down  
 Let the only sound  
 Be the overflow



"Never Let Me Go"

Looking up from underneath  
Fractured moonlight on the sea  
Reflections still look the same to me  
As before I went under

And it's peaceful in the deep  
Cathedral where you cannot breathe  
No need to pray, no need to speak  
Now I am under all

And it's breaking over me  
A thousand miles down to the sea bed  
Found the place to rest my head  
Never let me go (x4)

And the arms of the ocean are carrying me  
And all this devotion was rushing out of me  
And the crashes are heaven for a sinner like me  
But the arms of the ocean delivered me

Though the pressure's hard to take  
It's the only way I can escape  
It seems a heavy choice to make  
And now I am under all

And it's breaking over me  
A thousand miles down to the sea bed  
Found the place to rest my head  
Never let me go (x4)

And the arms of the ocean are carrying me  
And all this devotion was rushing out of me  
And the crashes are heaven for a sinner  
like me  
But the arms of the ocean delivered me

And it's over  
And I'm going under  
But I'm not giving up  
I'm just giving in

I'm slipping underneath  
So cold and so sweet

And the arms of the ocean so sweet and  
so cold

And all this devotion I never knew at all  
And the crashes are heaven for a sinner  
released

And the arms of the ocean delivered me  
Never let me go  
Never let me go  
Never let me go  
Never let me go  
Deliver me


 "Breaking Down"

All alone  
 It was always there you see  
 And even on my own  
 It was always standing next to me

I can see it coming from the edge of the room  
 Creeping in the streetlight  
 Holding my hand in the pale gloom  
 Can you see it coming now?

Oh, I think I'm breaking down again  
 Oh, I think I'm breaking down

All alone  
 Even when I was a child  
 I've always known  
 There was something to be frightened of

You know that I can see you coming from the  
 edge of the room  
 Creeping in the streetlight  
 Holding my hand in the pale gloom  
 Can you see it coming now?

Oh, I think I'm breaking down again  
 Oh, I think I'm breaking down

All alone  
 On the edge of sleep  
 My old familiar friend  
 Comes and lies down next to me

And I can see you coming from the edge  
 of the room  
 Smiling in the streetlight  
 Even with my eyes shut tight  
 I still see you coming now

Oh, I think I'm breaking down again  
 Oh, I think I'm breaking down again  
 Oh, I think I'm breaking down again  
 Oh, I think I'm breaking down



"No Light, No Light"

You are the hole in my head  
You are the space in my bed  
You are the silence in between  
What I thought and what I said

You are the night time fear  
You are the morning when it's clear  
When it's over you're the start  
You're my head, you're my heart

**No light, no light in your bright blue eyes**  
**I never knew daylight could be so violent**  
**A revelation in the light of day**  
**You can't choose what stays and what fades away**

And I'd do anything to make you stay  
No light, no light  
No light  
Tell me what you want me to say

Through the crowd, I was crying out  
And in your place there were a thousand other faces  
I was disappearing in plain sight  
Heaven help me, I need to make it right

You want a revelation,  
You wanna get it right  
But it's a conversation,  
I just can't have tonight  
You want a revelation

Some kind of resolution  
You want a revelation

And I'd do anything to make you stay  
No light, no light  
No light  
Tell me what you want me to say

Would you leave me,  
If I told you what I've done?  
And would you need me,  
If I told you what I've become?  
'Cause it's so easy,  
To say it to a crowd  
But it's so hard, my love,  
To say it to you out loud

And I'd do anything to make you stay  
No light, no light  
No light  
Tell me what you want me to say

You want a revelation,  
You wanna get it right  
But it's a conversation,  
I just can't have tonight  
You want a revelation  
Some kind of resolution  
You want a revelation





"Lover To Lover"

I've been losing sleep,  
I've been keeping myself awake,  
I've been wandering the streets,  
For days and days and days,

Going from road to road  
Bed to bed  
Lover to lover,  
And black to red,

But I believe,  
I believe...  
There's no salvation for me now,  
No space among the clouds,  
And I feel I'm heading down,  
But that's alright,  
That's alright! (x3)

And I've been taking chances,  
I've been setting myself up for the fall,  
I've been keeping secrets,  
From my heart and from my soul

Going from road to road,  
Bed to bed,  
Lover to lover,  
Black to red,

But I believe,  
I believe...

There's no salvation for me now,  
No space among the clouds,  
And I feel I'm heading down,  
But that's alright,  
That's alright! (x3)

Going from road to road,  
And bed to bed,  
And lover to lover,  
And black to red,  
And road to road,  
Bed to bed,  
And lover to lover!

No space among the clouds...  
And I feel I'm heading down...  
But that's alright,  
That's alright! (x5)

Road to road!  
Bed to bed!  
And lover to lover!  
And black to red!  
And road to road!  
Bed to bed!  
Lover to lover  
To lover to lover (x5)

No salvation for me now... (x4)

“Spectrum”

When we first came here  
We were cold and we were clear  
With no colors in our skin  
We were light and paper thin

And when we first came here  
we were cold and we were clear  
With no colors in our skin  
'Til we let the spectrum in

Say my name  
And every color illuminates  
We are shining  
And we will never be afraid again  
(x3)

And when we come for you  
We'll be dressed up all in blue  
With the ocean in our arms  
Kiss your eyes and kiss your palms

And when it's time to pray  
We'll be dressed up all in grey  
With metal on our tongues  
And silver in our lungs

Say my name  
And every color illuminates  
We are shining  
And we will never be afraid again  
(x3)

And when we come back we'll be dressed in black  
And you'll scream my name aloud  
And we won't eat and we won't sleep  
We'll drag bodies from a ground

So say my name  
And every color illuminates  
And we are shining  
And we'll never be afraid again  
(x4)



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Only If For a Night  
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What The Water Gave Me  
Never Let Me Go  
Breaking Down  
No Light, No Light  
Lover to Lover  
Spectrum



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