

Abandon Me to Light

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by Erin Crowley

I recently visited Cincinnati where I had the privilege of spending a morning in ... without killing the punch line...the "Freedom Center". It was a complete, eye-opening experience which led to this epic length set of lyrics. I haven't written music for it yet...and the lyrics are still pretty raw.

Crippled butterflies these wounded dreams...
Won't you shelter me with cobwebs and straw?
I'll save my hope for the other side
I'll swallow the crickets down raw
Forget the many faces I saw

Barking dogs got their men got their guns
Hunting for money lusting for blood
Praise the Lord for driftwood arks
To carry me across the flood,
To a sanctuary of cattails and mud

CHORUS:

My skin, my night of unknown dangers
My hope, my train the hands of strangers
Shadowed places; secret faces
Will you save me in darkness or abandon me to
light?

Claw my way up banks through forests & fields
Bare feet bleeding still I run
Stop dead I hear I hear the sound of footsteps
Coming I know there's someone
It's a man a face a stranger with a gun

CHORUS

Dogs are closing in, others close behind
The man says "quietly now follow me"
Leads me blind down long and secret tracks
Knock knock the door, concealing me
On the underside of his prosperity

CHORUS

BRIDGE:

They sold my husband, they stole my child
They broke my pride, they took my smile
Got nothing left still they demanded more
Til one night they forgot to bolt the door

Crouching barely breathing still and silent
In another cellar, cupboard, crawl space,
Through crack of wood and slant of dust
I see dear Lord that angry second face
Smell his sweaty yearning for the chase

What is the value of a bleeding shoeless woman
A couple of pennies in a strangers hand
I pray I plead I hear the first man say
No I ain't seen her, get off my land.
Won't say it again, get off my land.

CHORUS

I stay I sleep and dream and rest
While the sun still rules on high
Resume my journey northward
Once the stars have filled the sky
Another nameless saint whispers goodbye.