### **The New Nathan Detroits**

nineteen ninety eight looked great on plain white paper on the fiftieth plane to champaign but to tell you the truth if i had a chance to kill it i'd pick it up and take it and shake it and kiss it to death there's something inside like a conscience that says "you're painting floors while your pals are renaming the stars get up get up and go do what you started if you want to be a martyr, try harder" go my son have you grown? go make a home and put the kids in their beds and i will talk about this year if there was something to talk about and you sell and you sell with your heart so you can make a few bucks and lose a few friends and this is the stuff that makes you and it will be the same that breaks you move on get on with your life cause it's pointless to play if you don't get paid why not? go my son have you grown? go make a home and put the kids in their beds the kid's in our head we've got a lot of great mistakes to make we've got a lot of chances to take so let's take our time and hurry go my son has come home? i said no no no and made my own and put the kids in their beds the kid's in our head we've got a lot of people to fear this year so addy if you want to be near sing will to the wind and worry oh addy do i love you but i've got such things i have to do addy do i want to hear you but i just can't get through addy do i miss you these dreams i sing when i kiss you oh addy do i love you but god such things i put you through addy do i want to hold you but anyone may do addy do i miss you these dreams i sing when i'm introducing the new nathan detroits.

# Killing A Camera

got caught kicking the canvas down i had plans but they never seemed to work out wide-eyed and on the lookout got caught tearing the whole thing down i was halfway done but then you know this painted scene could never leave me oh please believe me caught killing a camera now it seems calming and clear to hire a cast of kittens, the cats we've been kissing for the cameras we're lowering here got caught tearing the whole thing down i was halfway done but then we sang it for memphis: the new slang in frame and canvas just for the cameras when we are away we sing "never ever" this is where you must make up your mind should beauty be design this time? this time you decide cause we go with whatever we take our time got a cough my throat kills from singing my ears are ringing the stage is slowly sinking and we're all thinking the same thing let's not settle for satisfaction we are women and men of action let's stop clapping, let's start doing a dream for the teens and in-betweens and twenties yet unseen.

#### **Never Will Come For Us**

as slow as rapid city we must be gathering speed here for something trained for these tracks but afraid of the freight and it doesn't get played on the radio travel wires and worries unravel faced with unlacing the drinks trade taps for tanks a new ram in the ranks our friends say way to go and where to go? Never if you're out there come along and save us from ourselves oh how we missed it everything's twisted around when the clouds come clear open your eyes and we'll be here never will come for us everything's sung never will comfort us everything's wrong never will come for us come come why won't you come? never if you're out there come to here and toast our merry year.

# **First Day Back**

so frustrated that something so complicated could hang over my head on my first day back and already i'm treading on unsteady ground so strike me down or check me out so elated that this soul so understated could be making eyes at me but first i'll be another innocent victim looking for some sense of sympathy in the middle of a state the sorry story of a star goes "here's my heart" it's a start and if anything we haven't seen everything in the middle of a stage there's a girl and a guitar but there's your car have we forgotten who we are? we haven't seen anything so i'm told that chicago's cold can't be cool as california for the first time ever i feel severed yet smooth removed if you approve then check it out to what do i owe this attention? i'm only half of the reflection and the conversation goes... oh nevermind to what do i owe this tension? if deception's fine, then this is divine define devine my first day back and already i've settled on my weak front.

### **Collect From Clark Kent**

honey please don't ignore me please accept this call i'm on the corner of cough and cold i'm a lovestruck lost soul please save me from the superpowers that i don't believe in save me please i'm lost and alone, i can't come home i'm stuck in a phone booth honey understand me i'm not sure to fly in fact i'm super stupid tonight and all the loose ends remain untied please save me from the superpowers that i don't believe in save me please i'm lost and alone, i can't come home i'm stuck in a phone booth again but once in your arms we'll rise above the ground you and me and the beautiful aerial view of sunrise city i'm never coming down in your arms we'll rise above the clouds me and you in the sweetest sheets of blue i'm never coming down but come and pick me up first please.

# Milwaukee Sky Rocket

this is what you made it you can't separate it you can't segregate yourself from everyone else open cover your eyes come on cover your eyes the light will slow and rise and i never will lie so come on cover your eyes the covers over mine this is how you take it past whatever you set for yourself you're killing yourself and everyone else open color your eyes come on color your eyes why the disguise? and i never will hide so come on color your eyes and i'll color over mine said you could see right through you and where you will be impress yourself.

#### A Dozen Roses

a dozen roses in the car and i don't know where you are maybe i don't know what i'm doing you're moving like a movie you still move me among the other ones and twos and threes and twenty-threes got to keep my conscience clean but that hurricane what's-her-name mentality was not for me and never could be cause it surely brings bitter things and misery and i say heaven hits me hard in with the new heaven hits me hardly in with the news whatever gets me started in with the noose have you ever had a heaven here and was it clear? cause i just wrote a letter a confession down the ladder that things could be so much better through follow the leader i met her and then another end and usually a grudge but i loved so much the way we touched and pseudo-kissed oh i already miss you singing like this over the phone every now and every then i tend to pretend i'm not alone now i know static made old radio heaven hits me hard in with the new heaven hits me hardly in with the news whatever gets me started in with the noose have you ever had a heaven here and was it clearly better?

# **Urbana's Too Dark**

above the mirrory street a lightning bug fires up the park when it's dark eleven and i fall in to drink to dream among the shadows number one wasn't that fun under two i never knew but we will not be submissive we're on a mission we'll finish the cup of who knows what bike along the broken blossoms pedal behind the dead wood hills something about here and you gives me chills at night the cars come curving in confrontation when you can't see anything you feel everything so akin to skin when the boys want in boys will be boys boys will be poison boys i'll be the camera if you'll be the star you be the camera when i am the star you burn the buildings i'll burn the cars turn on turn on turn on if they could only see the greed that circles around the silence if they could find us, they'd see if they were only listening so when those boys want in let's give em some of their own medicine i'll be the sky if you'll be the star if they could only see us now burn the cities and burn the towns turn on turn on turn on if they could only see the green circles around your brown eyes if they could sympathize - see green if they could only watch you sing.

## **Consolation Prizefighter**

your head's in the way of my mind and by the way i'm fine but i am a liar and i'm trying so give me a brand name and i'll wrap my arms around the caller's collar ring ring tears in the towel throw it in who'll choose the prizefighter? windows down the idiots yell at me, meek on the street clueless as usual and unbelievably easily bruisable but i'm trying so give me a cap gun and i'll press my lips on the necks of the next ones ring ring it's everything won too few in one too many.

### Ariel

assuming everything ariel dances in my room i clutch a red balloon and hope i don't get taken to the vacant rooms and tunes assuming everything ariel dances in my room at night her eyes are blue but will i ever want to see them bleed them dry to cry i would die cause i can't help it if your soul is shallow in the tides assuming everything ariel strikes a pretty pose i'm taking off my clothes and everybody knows what up with my baby snows assuming everything ariel shakes her silly hair i'll come before you there and welcome to a summer slumber under sheets that tear and eyes that tear cause i can't help it if the songs get hard for you to hear am i among the heirs of this ariel? cause i can't help it if my heart gets hard for you to hold once... twice... sold.

### **Breathe In**

i want you to see me out you know you're bringing yourself down and i drink too much and you sing too much and i think you know it i want to see you out you've got no inspiration to do anything at all hey when i go on do i look like you do? (marigold mary goes "you gotta come out so we can see you") and we think we bring you down and you're not alone in that and you're not the first and i think you know it i want you to see you were right about inspiration and everything else but you said it wrong hey when i go on do i look like you do? hey when i go out we look the same hey look in the mirror it's not what you say it's how you say it.

# I Keep A Diary

ten ten ninety seven rock springs wyoming hotel as far as i can tell i just don't miss you anymore yawn and the tears tear streams down the sink you know what i think? i can never yawn again come on so long move on one two and three i can see exactly just where you ruined me nineteen i said i hated you kissed you on twenty-two and music together i meant it for a moment of twenty-two and through and through come on so long move on i'll keep you here right next to me and i promise to wait if you say you're still coming.