

Report

To be afraid

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PROMPT: Songwriting Competition
2024

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GROUP: Write the World

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11x42jsGZlsgoU-1PQhkYerZee7xF3zvk/view?usp=drivesdk>

Oh, to be a dog in a canoe,
at peace alongside the ripples and waves.
I wonder if land is calling or patient,
the water listens, pushes me astray.

In hope, I find your tearful eyes,
they'll remain in even storms of rage.
Taste the breeze, knowing to my dismay:
you give me a reason to be afraid.

And hearts never physically meet,
yet i feel I've always known how yours
beats.

An anchor, I'm tied to you
with a woven leash, threaded with blue.
I've chased shadows and fears just to find
I discover nothing new.

A moth to a flame, I'm drawn to your
pain.

Flushed in the heat, but warm all the
same.

I've sketched fault lines by hand just to
lead several hearts astray.

Yet it's you who gives me a reason to be
afraid.

The leaves never turned back to green,
brown stains on their surfaces, and onto
our clothes.

And though their brushes painted each
sky a different shade of grey,
ours remained a slightly bluer tone.

And we're moments away from a living
nightmare,

yet the only thing on my mind is that
you'll say I don't care.

An anchor, I'm tied to you
with a woven leash, threaded with blue.
I've chased shadows and fears just to find
I discover nothing new.

A moth to a flame, I'm drawn to your
pain.

Flushed in the heat, but warm all the
same.

I've sketched fault lines by hand just to
lead several hearts astray.

Yet it's you who gives me a reason to be
afraid.

And this string of hope may be a rusting
wire,

but i'll grip it for you until both my arms
tire.

Wash away the blood stains of those
darker nights

with my words, my words.

And this new dawn we bring about every
day

only rises if we hold it, four arms and legs.

As much as i love whispering “you ease
the pain”,
truthfully, you’re the reason I’m afraid.

I’m afraid,
I'm afraid,
I was never afraid,
But I'm afraid.

Message to Readers

‘To be afraid’ stems from and is influenced by the world of the Last of Us, especially the characters Bill and Frank, who showed me how disease and loss affects our relationships. Covid was a hard time, so I wrote this to understand how afraid I was of losing people. I hope others can relate in feeling :)

United Kingdom

Song Writing