

Stage fright

Capo 2nd

Am G Am F C
Dm Am G G7 Am

Am F G C
How did it begin, how did it run by at the start?
F C G C
Waving away the fumes now rising from a brand new work of art
F C
These new beginnings feel like moving to another country
Dm Em
Setting up camp
Dm Em
Reading by the light of naked lamps
Am F G Em Am
Going over all the foreign words
C F Dm
Metal threads through it all
Am F G
Peeling and corroded and green
Am F C G
Bending upwards, forming walls
Am F G C
Only millimeters thick, through which the future can be seen

Am G Am F C
Dm Am G G7 Am

Am F G C
And now, anew, I hear the rushing drumming of my heart
F C G C
I hear the silence in the theatre as the show's about to start
F C
My hands are shaking, head is aching, mouth is dry. Is this just stage fright?
Dm Em
In the dark with nervous ticks
Dm Em
Reading other people's scripts
Am F G Em Am
Going over all the strange, old words
C F Dm
Metal threads through it all
Am F G
Looping and tightening 'round me
Am F C G
Bending, curling everything into a ball

Am F G C
Hard like minds that have forgotton what the past can also be

Em Am Em F G
And the bus driver, after a long life of driving

F Em
Spends his nights pulling the car up

F Em
To empty, moonlit bus stops

Am F G
Starts the car again, sighing:

Am G Am F C
"I should have done something else, but I didn't know how

Dm Am G G7 Am
I need to get another job, but I'm retired now.

Am G Am F C
I should have done something else, but I didn't know how

Dm Am G G7 Am
I need to get another job, but I'm retired now." ...

Am F G C
... Now I should know the language, after all it's where I'm from

F C G C
But my vocabulary's empty, native dialect's all but gone

F C
I throw away the scripts I close my eyes, I try hard not to focus

Dm Em
The first and second bells ring

Dm Em
The third bell rings

Am F G Em Am
Expectation drowns out all the words

C F Dm
Metal threads through it all

Am F G
Softening and melting in the heat

Am F C G
Bending back at the curtain call

Am F G C
And I see the back of painted props and bright eyes looking up at me

Am F G C
Am F G C