

On “In Every Dreamhome a Heartache” from “For Your Pleasure” (1973)

People who write in newspapers and various magazines about music tend more often than not to consider “In Every Dreamhome a Heartache”, to be about a man who is not just sexually frustrated constantly but a number of degrees more than that. I disagree to 99% with this interpretation and it is very hard for me to understand how it is possible to actually understand the song that rather widely spread way. As far as I can tell, there are only a few lines in the lyrics that are about something that I guess the political right wing christian parties of all nations on planet earth would prefer to put people in prison for even mentioning. My interpretation of the lyrics, which I think is quite correct, would be that it is about a man living his life in a postmodern condition or state. Just add one ounce of Lyotard, another ounce of Derrida and add to that a couple of teaspoons of whatever you fancy of what came out of the Factory in NYC when Warhol payed the rent there, and you have the main ingrediencies that make up the basics for the song. I can give almost as many examples from the lyrics I like, to give credibility to my interpretation – something quite easy since it’s probably correct – but I won’t.

After the last line – “but you blew my mind” – a guitar-solo starts which is regarded as somewhat of a classic. As a particularity I can mention that Mr. Ferry has performed the song with no other than Jane

Birkin, well known with the duet “Je t’aime...moi non plus” with Serge Gainsbourg. Ferry’s and Birkin’s version can be found on the album “Rendez-Vous” which I believe is from 2004. The song is featured on the tribute album to Roxy Music that came in 1999, a project started by one of the members of the english band Duran Duran.

I wont dwell on this much longer but I’ll provide you, my dear reader, with the lyrics. I include them for your please, quick access to read and make up your own mind if you haven’t got one already. I would be happy if you leave a comment on things like your view of what I’ve written so far, or addition information on the song, criticism, praises, opinions about sending me to prison in Thailand or whatever you like that has something to do with the subject or me.

In every dreamhome a heartache
And every step I take
Takes me further from heaven
Is there a heaven?
I’d like to think so
Standards of living
They’re rising daily

But home oh sweet home
It's only a saying
From bel push to faucet
In smart town apartment
The cartage is pretty
The mainhouse a palace
Penthouse perfection
But what goes on?
What to do there?
Better pray there
Open plan living
Bungalo ranch style
All of its comforts
Seem so essential
I bought you mail order
My plain wrapper baby
Your skin is like vinyl
The perfect companion
You float in my new pool
De luxe and delightful
Inflatable doll
My role is to serve you
Disposable darling
Can't throw you away now
Immortal and life size

My breath is inside you
I dress you up daily
And keep you 'til death sighs
Inflatable doll
Lover ungrateful
I blew up your body
.....
but you blew my mind

(Guitar-solo starts)

All those heartaches
Dreamhome heartache

(Chorus repeat a number of times with varieties of the 2 lines above)

(Guitar-solo continues without chorus)

End.

Fredrik Zander, 2009. www.zanderette.com

Compliments to mr. Chris Turner, www.roxyrama.com