

Reclaim the Night, My Birthright

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I was born not breathing, gender indeterminate, into the light
Of a world that wasn't ready to accept my right
To be who I am, to wear what I like
To go where I want
Even at night

*Night and day, dark and light
Coming out and going out
I demand my right
To reclaim the night!*

I was worn, not knowing, gender dysphoric, if I might
Be male, female or... something not quite right
A dark journey of a distressed soul
Took years of struggle, nearly
Snuffing out my light

*Night and day, dark and light
Coming out and going out
I demand my right
to reclaim the night!*

I was torn between man and woman, my head not right
All my explorations in the dark, mostly at night
To find out who I was was, or could be
If only I could find the courage
To emerge into the light

*Night and day, dark and light
Coming out and going out
I demand my right
To reclaim the night!*

I endured scorn for my transgender plight
Even from those who should have been a white knight
Being visibly different is not an invite, to
Discriminate, reject, revile, or
Hatefully gaslight

*Night and day, dark and light
Coming out and going out
I demand my right
To reclaim the night!*

I was shorn of my pride, faith, and love, felt only fright
As I began a decade-long path of loving the light
Of confidence, self-love, authenticity,
Freedom, expression, and a
Newfound delight

*Night and day, dark and light
Coming out and going out
I demand my right
To reclaim the night!*

I will not mourn what might have been with easy hindsight
But choose to celebrate a fanniversary birthright
Before even the surgeon's gift, I gave myself
A chance to shine rather than feel
Suicidally shite

*Night and day, dark and light
Coming out and going out
I demand my right
To reclaim the night!*

I was reborn, full of breath, genderqueer, my human right
To be, say or express myself, without affright
I am free at last, of internalised phobia,
Insecurity and self-hating repression
I now shine bright

*Night and day, dark and light
Coming out and going out
I demand my right
To reclaim the night!*

I'm not porn, a fetish to view in the dark of night
My new pussy, Mr Trump, is not an invite
To be grabbed, fingered, or fucked
Without permission or respect,
So be effing polite!

*Night and day, dark and light
Coming out and going out
I demand my right
To reclaim the night!*

Now I'm sworn to uphold and demand, each one's right
To wear what they want, however skintight
Dress as they please without gender rules
Nor fear of assault,
Day and night

*Night and day, dark and light
Coming out and going out
We demand our right
To reclaim the night!*

So we warn, any fool who thinks it their god-given right
To harass anyone, LGBT, black or white
For tonight is the night that we all
Diverse, great and small
Reclaim the night!