

(4) "GROW FOR ME"

SEYMOUR

I'VE GIVEN YOU SUNSHINE
I'VE GIVEN YOU DIRT
YOU'VE GIVEN ME NOTHIN'
BUT HEARTACHE AND HURT!
I'M BEGGIN' YOU SWEETLY
I'M DOWN ON MY KNEES.
OH PLEASE –
GROW FOR ME.

I'VE GIVEN YOU PLANT-FOOD
AND WATER TO SIP
I'VE GIVEN YOU POTASH.
YOU'VE GIVE ME – ZIP!
OH GOD HOW I MIST YOU
OH POD HOW YOU TEASE
SO PLEASE –
GROW FOR ME.

(He crosses to the window-seat and deposits the PLANT there)

I'VE GIVEN YOU SOUTHERN EXPOSURE
TO GET YOU TO THRIVE
I'VE PINCHED YOU BACK HARD,
LIKE I'M SUPPOSED TA,
YOU'RE BARELY ALIVE
I'VE TRIED YOU AT LEVELS OF MOISTURE,
FROM DESERT TO MUD.

(Returning to the worktable to tidy-up)

I'VE GIVEN YOU GROW LIGHTS AND MINERAL SUPPLEMENTS.
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
BLOOD?

(As he works, he pricks his finger on a rose-thorn)

I'VE GIVEN YOU SUNLIGHT
I'VE GIVEN YOU RAIN
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT HAPPY
'LESS I OPEN A VEIN!
I'LL GIVE YOU A FEW DROPS
IF THAT'LL APPEASE
NOW PLEASE –

(SEYMOUR gingerly extends his bleeding finger toward THE PLANT. THE PLANT vibrates in anticipation)

OH PLEASE –

(SEYMOUR squeezes his finger over THE PLANT, extracting a drop or two of blood. The pod opens, snapping at the drops like a puppy, begging for more)

Grow for me?

(SEYMOUR exits into the back room. As MUSIC builds, we see THE PLANT begin to grow ... and grow ... and grow ... until, on the last chord of the music, it gives a little circular flourish – almost seeming to bow)