

# Anderson Laurie, The Dream Before

Anderson Laurie  
Strange Angels  
The Dream Before  
(for Walter Benjamin)

Hansel and Gretel are alive and well  
And they're living in Berlin  
She is a cocktail waitress  
He had a part in a Fassbinder film  
And they sit around at night now  
drinking schnapps and gin  
And she says: Hansel, you're really bringing me down  
And he says: Gretel, you can really be a bitch  
He says: I've wasted my life on our stupid legend  
When my one and only love  
was the wicked witch.

She said: What is history?  
And he said: History is an angel  
being blown backwards into the future  
He said: History is a pile of debris  
And the angel wants to go back and fix things  
To repair the things that have been broken  
But there is a storm blowing from Paradise  
And the storm keeps blowing the angel  
backwards into the future  
And this storm, this storm  
is called  
Progress

-----