

## *Dear Sinéad*

I'd like to sing you a lullaby and soothe you to gentle sleep.  
You never realised your impact and the world is left to weep.

Your soulful eyes and shaven head were hallmarks of your expression.  
Your words and deeds and activism a symbol of your passion.

You faced ridicule and derision for speaking your own and honest truth.  
They shot you down and tried to drown you out for addressing the taboo.

You were a voice for the underdog and stood up for the common man.  
You used the platform of your music to encourage others to take a stand.

You were a trailblazer and a warrior and a woman with a cause.  
Your own experiences and fragility helped you empathise more than most.

Your haunting tones and melodies were a fierce and constant mantra.  
From Drink Before the War, This is the Day, All Apologies and Mandinka.

Your renditions of The Parting Glass and Raglan Road bring goosebumps  
to our skin.

And give us a glimpse of the emotion and hunger  
that intensely resides within.

Rest in power darling Sinéad and thank  
you for your service.

You bore your trauma and your illness  
and dragged stigma to the surface.

We will miss your presence and your  
heart, that beat for justice, so loyal and  
true.

We sing your song back and say, with  
gratitude and love -

'Nothing Compares to You'.

