

We have always needed scapegoats

We have always needed scapegoats.
Something simple works much better
Than the complex or the layered.
It helps people come together.

We have always needed scapegoats
As distraction from the truth.
Punching down is much less effort
Than attempts to fix the roof.

We have always needed scapegoats
In the classroom or the creche.
Calling names is in our bloodstream
To deflect guilt for this mess.

We have always needed scapegoats.
We have always been too proud
To admit that we are sinners,
Speak the quiet bit out loud.

We have always needed scapegoats,
But the boy agreed to lie,
Til the great replacement happened.
And a father breathed a sigh.

We have always needed scapegoats,
Cast beyond to play the foe.
While religion does its work
To maintain the status quo.

We have always needed scapegoats,
So you made yourself the target
Of our vicious finger-pointing.
Not for you the vain red carpet.

We have always needed scapegoats
'Til you turned and ran towards them.
There you welcomed and you feasted
Leaving more than just the breadcrumbs.

We have always needed scapegoats,
Yet your words did not condemn -
Letting go of power and privilege
Reconciling us and them.

We have always needed scapegoats
So you knelt and took the blame.
There you let yourself be cancelled
At the zenith of your fame.

We have always needed scapegoats,
But you were meant to be the last.
Now crosses vampirise 'the other'
To idolise the 'past'.

We have always needed scapegoats,
So if you were here right now.
Would you often tell the story
Of the "Good Muslim" and how...

We have always needed scapegoats
As we're prone to be quite tribal.
Christian Nationalism works
If you leave out half the Bible.

We have always needed scapegoats
It is in our DNA
So come, our GOAT, subvert the lies
With truth, the life, the way.

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