



The Word

Alden Nolen (1933 - 1983)

Selected by Etta Abramson

'ðou ai hæv ðə 'ɡɪft əv 'tɪŋz
 ənd kən 'muv 'maʊnʔnɪz
 maɪ 'wɜːdz æ 'nʌθɪŋ
 kəm'preəd wɪθ 'jɔːz
 ðou ju 'oʊnlɪ
 lʊk 'ʌp frəm maɪ 'æmz
 ənd 'wɪspə maɪ 'neɪm

ðɪs ɪz nɒt 'praɪd
 bə'kʌz ai noʊ
 ɪf ɪz nɒt'
 'maɪ neɪm wʌʔ ju 'wɪspə
 bʌt ə 'saɪn
 bə'twɪn ʌs
 laɪk ðə 'wɜːd
 ðəʔt wəz 'spoukən

æʔt̪ d̪ə bɪ'ɡɪnɪŋ əv d̪ə 'wɜːld
ænd wɪl bi 'spɒʊkən ə'ɡen
'oʊnli wen d̪ə 'wɜːld 'endz

ðɪs ɪz nɒt 'ðæt̪ wɜːd
bʌt̪ 'ði 'lɒð̪
ðæt̪ mʌst̪ bi 'spɒʊkən
oʊv̪ ɹən oʊv̪
waɪl d̪ə 'wɜːld 'læsts

'tɪəz
'læft̪ə
ə 'laɪftaɪm
'ɔl ɪn 'wʌn 'wɜːd

d̪ə 'wɜːd ju 'wɪsp̪ə
wen ju 'lʊk ʌp
frəm maɪ 'əʊmz
ænd sɪm tu 'seɪ
'maɪ 'neɪm



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A few notes on usage:

- the "corner symbol" as in [nɒt̪ 'maɪ] is used to denote an unreleased pronunciation.
- [ʔt̪] is used here to show glottal support of the final /t/ – they are coarticulated

Did you find any mistakes? Remember that I might pronounce things differently than you. But it is quite possible that I made a mistake too. Let me know if you find one! Points to Amber for catching one in the previous edition. Did you enjoy this? Let me know what you thought by emailing me at <earmsfro@yorku.ca>