

curiosity shop (iron man dream #2)

facing east I park the truck
is this the right direction?
inside the truck some treasured things
a box of rocks and childhood charms.

across the street inside the shop
a thousand things for second sale
big-bellied happy plastic goat
in overalls and farmer's hat
a cardboard box sedan inside
IRON MAN FAMILY OUTING!
behind the wheel he's grim determined
full armor wife and kids.

the old man smiles
he's open friendly
I feel distrustful ill at ease
my dad was iron man too he says
he knows too much to be a stranger.

old woman's voice is hard to hear
immersed in static broken fading
she seeks the owner of a truck
she wants the box of charms and trinkets . . .

*your talismans are very bad
it's not your fault they came like this
someone passed them on to you
do not pass them to another
let me clear the bad luck for you
contact me it's very urgent.*

she gives her name and how to find her
I can't hear there's too much noise.

young woman stands behind the counter
tired of taking care of others
I ask her who the woman was
the one who made the last announcement
she answers several times but I can never understand her
*please write it down
I can't quite hear you*
inside I feel embarrassed.

the writing on the card she hands me
looks like nonsense out of context
I fail to see how this will help me
the writing on the card is mine.

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