



Lana Del Rey

"Ultraviolence"

Ultraviolence

06/2014

Polydor / Interscope

Escape from Paradise

Stephanie Valente

*"Jim taught me that/
Loving him was never enough"*

– Lana Del Rey, "Ultraviolence"

some time ago, we were spies
in the dreamhouse, a house
built on palm tree dreams,
spilled bourbon, careless cigarettes.
a house that whispered:
meet me in the past. a place
where only good girls count,
for the price of admission. darling,
i watched you give me the prettiest
red dress to cross the threshold.
it was lovely, until it hurt. smoke burned,
even if you promised, they weren't real Parliaments.
i built that dreamhouse, in a red dress,
without panties, my sweat poured on you.
building was easy, a good girl with
the right credentials: tiny, fresh, worshipping
stars. darling, i chose the wrong gods.
there was no safe place. so, i burned it.
took your fingers out of my mouth. i ruined
our history. i put the stars on altars, made
ruined gods. i burned + you burned.
rib wounds, black eyes, awful trophies.
it was terrible, our cult. i'm the spy standing on ruins.
the truth is, everyone wants to win the prize fight.
in the end, i chose this life.