

Cut to West Village, 1983

times I sweep the sidewalk
in an imaginary floor-length jacket
full of holes split pockets Faginesque
as a way to make them look twice
at what is on show:

a girl in drag
a girl as a beautiful boy
a girl in a black thrift store dress
a girl with brown hair cut to #2 at the sides by an Italian barber
a girl practicing blowing smoke rings out of cloves
a girl sipping too-hot coffee out of styrofoam
a girl shivering on west 12th waiting for a boy
a girl in error with headphones playing Hüsker Dü

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