

We could find a porch to hold us
Where we could all scream "Childers"
Drink the shit that kills us
Until we all remember
Who it was when we were younger
'Fore the world took our pride
When we were walking in straight lines
Tryna find who's good to drive

And I've had so many evenings
The way I've felt I can't recall
Was I jumping from the rafters
When my buddies broke my fall?
By the end of the night
We'd be flying or crying
Talking 'bout the times
We've spent living towards dying

So don't stop running boy
But don't be naive
'Cause this world will burn and break you
Worse than hearts like ours believe
Don't stop dancing girl
'Til it feels right
'Cause we'll be flying or crying
By the end of the night

You always snuck up in my front seat
With some reasons of your own
Tryna get a plainsman
Drunk and all alone
But don't you go falling for
And don't you go believing
A boy with calloused hands
With a mind set on leaving

All the moments that we've been through
All the memories we've made
I don't think God'd be willing
To come down here and save
Some heathens from the flatlands
Who only bitch and moan
But if I'm going down
Least I'm not going down alone

So don't stop running boy
But don't be naive
'Cause this world will break and burn you
Worse than hearts like ours believe
Don't stop dancing girl
'Til it feels right
'Cause we'll be flying or crying
By the end of the night

Softness in your voice
It reminds me of back home
Sing you all the songs
That I wrote when I was alone
And now I go out drinking
With all my shameless friends
I've been having trouble
Just finding hope again

I love it when you're laughing
Sprawled out on a picnic chair
Restless in my mind dies out
When you're right here
Finally made it over
That damn four-year drought
I'll thank you and you alone
For draggin' my ass out

Well, the love that you got
Is the love that I need
It's in the air of these hills
And the blood that I bleed
And the love that you gave
For the awful shape I'm in
Led me through the day
So I can find my hope again

And I hope we make it out
Of all these younger years alive
Sittin' under sundowns
In about ten years time
And I'm just there grinnin'
Over the shit that I've been through
Saying I've made it over
'Cause the hope I've found in you

Well, the love that you got
Is the love that I need
It's in the air of these hills
And the blood that I bleed
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And the love that you gave
For the awful shape I'm in
Led me through the day
So I could find my hope again

Well, I wanna send a post card
From the edge of a place I've never been
And I wanna make love hard
Under the stars in the back of a beat up ol' K-10
And I wanna love a girl who
Doesn't worry about the pictures when we kiss
Wake up one day and not be so hit-and-miss
Lay in bed all day and call that shit pure bliss

I'm movin' at God speed
Only God and my mama know what I need
And I feel the hardwood floors on my knees
As I beg you just to take it easy on me

I'm movin' at God speed

Well, I wanna see the road melt
Into the mountains away as I drive
And make it out of this damn town alive
And not let the dreams I shoulder die

'Cause I'm movin' at God speed
Only God and my mama know what I need
And I feel the hardwood floors on my knees
As I beg you just to take it easy on me

Well, I wanna die an old man
Messed-up stories of me and all my old friends
And laugh about how we all thought it won't end
How we all wind up where we begin

Movin' at God speed
Where only God and our mamas know what we need
And we feel the hardwood floors on our knees
As we beg the world to bring us to our feet

'Cause I'm movin' at God speed
Only God and my mama know what I need
And I feel the hardwood floors on my knees
As I beg you just to take it easy on me

I'm movin' at God speed

I like the way your face looks
When you're smiling like a vandal
Waking up warm with you in a room
That's too cold for us to handle
And in this shack I'm living in
You don't mind sleeping in
Eating food leftover from last night
There's plenty of boys that want you, babe
But for me you will crawl, scratch, and fight
We'll go out on Saturday
And ride the bronco through the bay
Sit and drink cerveza by the shore
You'll tell me you love me, girl
Even if I'm wrecked, lonely, and poor

So don't give up on me
You don't care where I'm buying
You're in

Girls today will drink all day
To fall in love with any boy they see
You're a sight of utmost beauty
Utmost strength and utmost loyalty
So I'll sit here and drink all night
Talk about the Lord's delight in you
If my mama could just see you laugh
I know that she could see the shine in you
She'd say thanks for taking care
Of a baby boy 'cause she can't be here
To hug you till your little lungs turn blue

No I won't give up on you
No I won't give up on you

Lord, let me tell you about a place where we all used to go
Turn down towards Goose Island, keep your eyelids on the road
'Cause there's boys in the hills and they're getting lost tonight
And the girls in their cars are all gettin' high

I use to hang around a rowdy crowd out in the Rogers
Siren sounds ain't nothing boys as long as you can dodger
And I had no idea this damn road got so curvy
You said brother this roads straight
You're just drunk and it's gettin' early

So won't you count em' up now, count em' up?
All the people that I've let down
Won't you round em' up now, round em' up?
All the liars in this town
'Cause I'm coming home and I'm toeing the line
I just hope those boys I used to know
Are all doing fine, doing fine

I remember those old trains they made noises like a steam boat
And we would throw our rocks at them like some assholes with some high hopes
Can't get back those aimless nights that we all claim is ours
I guess we'll never die up there with all those ever shining stars

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All the people that I've let down
Won't you round em' up now, round em' up?
All the liars in this town
'Cause I'm coming home and I'm toeing the line
I just hope those boys I used to know
Are all doing fine, doing fine

Lord, let me tell you about a place where we all used to go
Turn down towards Goose Island
Keep your eyelids on the road

You can't lie to yourself
After loving something true
And I've never loved a soul
Quite the way that I loved you
You told me you despise
Everything that I've become
How we always turn into
Everything we're running from
And I miss the way you followed
When you jaywalked in the street
How you always talked more trash
Than any boy bad mouthing me
And the way that the oak creaked
When you snuck up from my bed
The way that missing someone
Will have you seeing steady red

Take it slow as you leave me
Don't you go home this evening
With someone
That you're acting like is me
And I will try my hardest darling
Wait on a star that's falling
And I will wait so patiently
One thing I have quickly
Come to know
Nothing kills you slower than
Letting someone go

So take it slow as you leave me
Don't you go home this evening
With someone
You're acting like is me
And I will try my hardest darling
Wait on a star that's falling
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And I will try my hardest darling
Wait on a star that's falling
And I will wait so desperately
One thing I have quickly
Come to know
Nothing kills you slower than
Letting someone go

I was smiling like a boy that just stole shit
When you told me you'd hold it
My late mama's ring
And I'd sneak away at the end of each day
To write sonnets for you I could sing
It was cold in October
When you rolled yourself over
To pull on my shoulder to say
It took a mighty long time and too much wasted wine
To find a man who looks at me this way

But I'd fight any roughneck I'd stop any river
If it meant that I could just lie here forever
In the grips of a woman
Sends shivers down spines
Makes you recall your forgotten good times

When you wake in the morning
To the sound of me snoring
My ragged face by your side
Pray that you know
All my dreams and my hopes
Have you holding me the day that I die
And I know I'm nothing but I am not bluffing
When I say you're meant for the sky
Cause beauty that holy and a heart so kind
Deserves a place it can fly

But I'd fight any roughneck I'd stop any river
If it meant that I could just lie here forever
In the grips of a woman
Sends shivers down spines
It makes you recall your forgotten good times

Yeah, I'd fight any roughneck I'd stop any river
If it meant that I could just lie here forever
In the grips of a woman
Sends shivers down spines
It makes you recall your forgotten good times

I was smiling like a boy that just stole shit
When you told me you'd hold it
My late mama's ring
And I'd sneak away at the end of each day
To write sonnets for you I could sing

I heard you like to go out late at night
Dance around the amber of the southern lights
Knew you were home by the creak in the floor
Your foot silhouette under a bedroom door
Driving me home at 7 AM
Hand in mine like a heaven sent hymn

Moving and shaking like the ramblers do
After getting through the days
I never thought I'd get through

You bring heaven down to me
Coarse it through my blood as I breathe
I bet the Angel's jealous of a girl I know
She takes my stain and makes me
White as snow
White as snow

I hear Jesus makes sin white as linen
Like the sheets that we're in
And your teeth when you're grinnin'
Take it away and you give it to God
Like the night you dumped out
All the liquor I bought
And there's a way the grass smells
On a summer night
When it's freshly cut the moisture's right
It's nights like these in the August heat
I think the Devil's just another boy I can beat

You bring heaven down to me
Coarse it through my blood as I breathe
I bet the Angel's jealous of a girl I know
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You bring heaven down to me
Coarse it through my blood as I breathe
I bet the Angel's jealous of a girl I know
She takes my stain and makes me
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I miss the time you loved me when you actually did
When I was just a wild haired messed up kid
You told me that I smell like Pabst and spirits
You'd give anything at all to be anywhere near it
You grow so fond of things meant to be free
What if letting go is what's killing me
I've never felt this beat down before
Soon as I'm back up I'm coming back for more

And I hope you find, whatever it is you need
Leave it behind, the wreckage of you and me
And I pray you go, back to Oklahoma
So I can head back home and be the
Man that's never known ya

Well, I'd have move the mountains roped every damn star
To have the slightest idea who you actually are
One more moment of you laying right here
I wrote you songs that you'll never hear
Started out feeling like a damn rebirth
Till the laughing stops and you lose your worth
You question it all when you lie in your bed
Cause you can't take back any love you give

And I hope you find, whatever it is you need
Leave it behind, the wreckage of you and me
And I pray you go, back to Oklahoma
So I can head back home and be the
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Well, I hope you find, whatever it is you need
Leave it behind, the wreckage of you and me
And I pray you go, back to Oklahoma
So I can head back home and be the
Man that's never known ya

Well, the curves down your back

Remind me of those railroad tracks
That we jump and not look back
In our youth
And the brown in your eyes
Reminds me of those morning skies
Where the sun would try to hide
Behind the roof
The way those rivers flow in July
Keeps the lakes from going dry
It reminds me of what you do to my
Angry heart

Cause you look like Oklahoma
And I'll keep you like I stole ya
I thank God when I hold ya
Cause it feels right
You're the moon in Oklahoma
And I'm the night
You're the moon in Oklahoma
And I'm the night

When you say the words you say
It reminds me of the days
We'd go dancin' downtown
Chemicals in our brains
When you move the way you move
It reminds me of the grain
The twists and turns
And plays among the plains

Cause you look like Oklahoma
And I'll keep you like I stole ya
And I thank God when I hold ya
Cause it feels right
You're the moon in Oklahoma
And I'm the night
You're the moon in Oklahoma
And I'm the night

Well, you look like Oklahoma
And I'll keep you like I stole ya
And I thank God when I hold ya
Cause it feels right
You're the moon in Oklahoma

And I'm the night

I'm condemned, I'm condemned
Oh, my heart is on the mend
Nobody gives a damn about me
You can tell me that you love me 'til your little lungs turn blue
But I'm always alone when I fall asleep
And the girls that walk downtown are like some stars that fell to earth
They like the veins in my arms, the story in my hurt
The boys they always tell me that my words get 'em by
They can tell how much I mean it by the bloodshot in my eye

So don't try to make it my fault
If you plan on leaving don't come at all
Lord knows no glory in the fall
If no one's around at the end of it all

I'm condemned, I'm condemned
Oh, my heart is on a mend
Looking for somebody who can save me
I'm condemned, I'm condemned
Just like all my worthless friends
Waiting on the wind to set us free

Well, the debt that I've been after
All the booze and all the laughter
I guess that's just what makes us who we are
And the people that we lose
And the battles that we choose
Have you pining for something too damn far

So don't try to make it my fault
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I'm condemned, I'm condemned
Oh, my heart is on the mend
Nobody gives about a damn about me
You can tell me that you love me 'til your little lungs turn blue
But I'm always alone when I fall asleep

I need calling you right about now
Tell you stories of a pretty fine gal
Remind you of the things that your boy's into
How he looks and he acts and he talks like you

This world's not meant for showin' mercy
I got pictures of us that hurt me
Cause I'm squeezin' you and you're smilin' through
That flash up on the wall

Sweet DeAnn I miss you so
And your words go where I go
For reasons I don't know
But I'll sing em' loud and slow
So you can hear me from the Heavens
And you can draw my thunder down
I miss havin' you around

But in my heart you're always found

You always sat there with me
And you cried every time I played keen
You said your boy would be seen
By the masses someday

But I don't want the stage
I don't want the girls
I want back the days
You were breathin' in this world

Then I think about the moments
It's a shame you'll have to miss
My wife and I's first kiss
And your baby raisin' kids

Sweet DeAnn I miss you so
And you go wherever I go
For reasons I don't know
But I'll sing em' loud and slow
So you can hear me from the Heavens
And you can call my thunder down
I miss havin' you around
But in my heart you're always found

Sweet DeAnn I miss you so
And your words go where I go
For reasons I don't know
But I'll sing it loud and slow
So you can hear me from the Heavens
And you can call my thunder down
I miss havin' you around
But in my heart you're always found

You should really get some rest, Rose
You been up all night
And I love the way your arms pose

In the windowpane sunlight
You keep me calm and strong
When I've had enough
And when the bodies meet palms, babe, how the heavens open up

Sweet girl, I feel like quittin'
Cause I'm tired of missin' home
But the moments I am with you
My home begins to roam
And the northwest cold in the winter
It'll chill you to your core
I have never died Rose, but I've seen heaven before

I thought everyone liked me
Is too old or dead
And you make my knees weak
And my pale face red
Red like a rose, dear
In the summer when they grow here
And I've got no fear
Whichever way these days steer

Sweet girl, I feel like quittin'
Cause I'm tired of missin' home
But the moments I am with you
My home begins to roam
And the northwest cold in the winter
It'll chill you to your core
I have never died Rose, but I've seen heaven before

I know you're tired babe
Cause' I'm tired too
So won't you settle on down
With someone just like you

Sweet girl, I feel like quittin'
Cause I'm tired of missin' home
But the moments I am with you
My home begins to roam
And the northwest cold in the winter
It'll chill you to your core
I have never died Rose, but I've seen heaven before

You should really get some rest, Rose

You been up all night
Waitin' for me to come home
When the dust breaks light

I've got some good friends with some loose ends that remind me of myself
They can drink as much as me and they can smoke me half to hell
And by the end of these songs when we bring our asses home
They'll all be thankin' God that they're not in this pain alone
And this world has been so cruel to me and it's been the same to them
But I don't mind sharin' my sweet depression
With some boys that act just like me and a girl that does the same
I don't know how I got here but I'm glad as hell I'm here

Come as you are, however broken
And we will see if we can make you whole again
Come as you are, with your heart wide open
Bridges that you've burned they are still there just floatin'

Remember us in our bright eyed days too young to go inside
Sittin' drunk on curbs tryin' to get us our selves rides
Of the pretty girls who walk down there on Elgin Avenue
Oklahoma sure is quiet but it has itself a view
And how am I supposed to know the good times that I'm in
If the good is only seen when I'm lookin' back at them
The boys are gettin' off work and they're haulin' on back home
If I am meant for anything it's to show you you're not alone

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Come as you are, with your heart wide open
Bridges that you've burned they are still there just floatin'

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They can drink as much as me and they can smoke me half to hell
And by the end of these songs when we bring our asses home
They'll all be thankin' God we're not in this pain alone

Come as you are, however broken
And we will see if we can make you whole again
Come as you are, with your heart wide open
Bridges that you've burned they are still there just floatin'

You don't have to drink tonight why don't we just get some sleep
'Cause I'm tired of cryin' in driveways as you slur the words you speak
I know growin' up has been an evil thing to you
Makes you awful hard to love from a lover's point of view
And I'll never understand how you wound up in the shape your in
But I'll always be the fool who fell for you in your burnin' skin
I'll be prayin' for you and pinin' for you and hopin' you get some rest
But from a lover's point of view it's all been hard to watch at best

'Cause from where I'm standin' you got a long climb ahead
I'll be there to wipe the vomit when you cannot lift your head
'Cause a lover doesn't leave when times like these get dark
I'll be there to watch the sunrise when we reclaim your heart

And I'll pick you up downtown when you're grinnin' with a busted lip
'Cause you're not known for backin' down and those boys are known for talkin' shit
But now's about the time, look, you really got to decide
Are you gonna be a good man to me or die the way you're mother died

'Cause from where I'm standin' you got a long climb ahead
I'll be there to wipe the vomit when you cannot lift your head
'Cause a lover doesn't leave when times like these get dark
I'll be there to watch the sunrise when we reclaim your heart

You don't have to drink tonight why don't we just get some sleep
'Cause I'm tired of cryin' in driveways as you slur the words you speak

You're revvin' and drivin' through the night when those stars line up like they should
You've turned into what you've been through but you used to be the good
Think of that old photograph your mom in '89
Your dad laughed said she was like that when she had herself too much wine
You'd give anything at all to be anywhere but here
Your breathin' only steadies when you start to disappear
You wanna be in mountains or smellin' water by the coast
But you can't get out of your own mind so you settle in and coast

And you just drive to stay alive
One more day passes by
You just drive through the night
'Til that darkness turns to sky

You think about your sister and the mighty heart she has
She's been sober for a year now how the time seems to pass
They told you it would go quick but you never tend to listen
Don't you miss your mama boy hummin' hymnals in the kitchen

And you just drive to stay alive
One more day that passes by
You just drive through the night
'Til that darkness turns to sky

The concrete is the same here as it is in Rogers County
I bet them boys are doin' fine runnin' roads without me
Don't you miss the days when we'd sneak Jack in football games
No one in this town remembers my name anyway

So I just drive to stay alive
One more day that passes by
I just drive through the night
'Til that darkness turns to sky

You're revvin' and drivin' through the night when those stars line up like they should
You've turned into what you've been through but you used to be the good

He was a boy who was a dreamer and he flew so high and proud

In a world full of people out to cut his young ass down
No one ever understood a single word he said
And they cast him to the wolves when he wasn't well and fed

But boys we've got a riser, a riser in our midst
And he will get the last laugh if it's the last thing he did
And he used to roll around in that red dirt mud
But now he's skipping town and that dreamer's out for blood

So don't stop goin', goin' south
'Cause they'll let you play your music real damn loud
Don't stop headin', headin' south
'Cause they will understand the words that are pouring from your mouth

Then that boy, he called his daddy to tell him what he did
As the masses scream the lyrics of the messed up kid
And then he told that old man he was never coming back
To be cut down again in a town like that

Then he surely came to learn people come to watch you fall
But he's out to make a name and a fool out of them all
They'll never understand, that boy and his kind
'Cause all they comprehend is a fuckin' dollar sign

So don't stop goin', goin' south
'Cause they'll let you play your music real damn loud
Don't stop headin', headin' south
'Cause they will understand the words that are pourin' from your mouth

Don't stop goin', goin' south
'Cause they'll let you play your music real damn loud
Don't stop headin', headin' south
They will understand the words that are pourin' from your mouth

Well you can call me when you wake up
Your tears smeared from your makeup
And we are here in the wake of
A fire burning down our love
And I feel a filth now

I feel it deep within my bones
And I walk these city streets
Drunk and stumbling all alone
And I want so bad
To be next to you
But there's only so much two hearts can suffer through
And I think apart
May do us better
I'm glad it happened at all
Rather than never

But you're so cold-blooded
Oh, my soul's flooded
The water that's cold as ice
You be my muse and I'll be your vice

Wouldn't it be something
If we could find the way
Somewhere in some place and time
We could both be ok
I pray you're somewhere pretty
And that you're staying true
To that spitfire fireball drinking girl that I knew

But you're so cold-blooded
Oh, my soul's flooded
The water that's cold as ice
You be my muse and I'll be your vice

I pray your somewhere pretty
And that's staying true
To that spitfire fireball drinking girl that I knew

You're so cold-blooded
Oh, my souls flooded
The water that's cold as ice
You be my muse and I'll be your vice

There's a fire burnin' in the basement

That I'd only stoke for you
Freeze my whole life
If you felt warmth all the way through
You have given hope
Where hope is hard to find
Hate the man I am
But I'll love him when you're mine

When you are mine
Though I ain't so angry
When you are mine
This world done owe me a thing
Since you are mine
Oh, lord can take me
And I can die right now
With no qualms or questioning

Well, there were Pabst can
On the nightstand
Where you're jewelry's laying now
There's times that made me anxious
But there's beauty in finding out
How the good days come together
Like I always said they'd never
Back when I was younger
And the dark days kept me down

When you are mine
Though I ain't so angry
When you are mine
This world done owe me a thing
Since you are mine
Oh, lord can take me
And I can die right now
With no qualms or questioning

Well, there's a fire burning in the basement
That'd I'd only stoke for you
Freeze my whole life
If you felt warmth all the way through
You have given hope
Where hope is hard to find
Hate the man I am
But I'll love him when you're mine

It takes a hell of a heart to know what a
Heart really needs
And I'm finding out that love ain't what loves
Cut out to be
If I was not my mommas boy, I'd leave you
Crying in my car
Punch a hole in your damn dashboard and
Forget the girl you are

We've been fighting for so long it'd be a shame to let this go
But I'd rather let it lie than hurt a sweet
Girl I know
And its getting dark now so won't
You just stay
And I'll tell you that I love you till the
Leaving goes away

Till the leaving leaves this house
No we ain't going out
Till I make some promises I can't keep
And I wish I could explain how the toxins
In my brain get me so damn down
Sometimes I can't speak
And you'll try to understand why I
Can't be a better man
But it's hard when I'm yelling at you
In the street
But if leaving comes to staying
And you walk yourself away
Leave knowing that no one could
Love you more than me

I hope the world don't mind all the
Simple things I ask
Like a porch with good lighting and to
Hear my lady laugh

And I'll act indifferent because I don't
Want to leave
Because leavings for a younger man that
I don't want to be

Till the leaving leaves this house
No we ain't going out
Till I make some promises I can't keep
And I wish I could explain how the toxins
In my brain get me so damn down
Sometimes I can't speak
And you'll try to understand why I
Can't be a better man
But it's hard when I'm yelling at you
In the street
But if leaving comes to staying
And you walk yourself away
Leave knowing that no one could
Love you more than me

Every time you come to town, we wind up doin' the same thing
Gettin' high and runnin' around, blame you tend on placing

I remember wakin' up with you, I wish you'd leave me layin'
Prayin' God'll get us through the bills we ain't been payin'
I hear a lot of people talk about you, I can't hear what they're sayin'
You're not used to stickin' around, grown accustomed to the stayin'

Every time you come to town, we wind up doin' the same thing
Gettin' high and runnin' around, the blame you tend on placin'
And are you happy now Anita now that you're finally free
When you said that you were leavin' and only comin' back for me

Cheap booze and codeine pills ain't worth all the losin'
Nothin' can come between us, damn a life worth choosin'
Cheap booze and codeine pills ain't worth all the losin'
Nothin' can come between us, damn a life worth choosin'

Daddy said I've lost mind and my momma she'd be grievin'

Your face down in a bathroom stall with vices planned on keepin'
Are you happy now Anita now that you're finally free
When you said that you were leavin' and only comin' back for me

Cheap booze and codeine pills ain't worth all the losin'
'Cause nothin' can come between us, damn a life worth choosin'
Cheap booze and codeine pills ain't worth all the losin'
Nothin' can come between us, damn a life worth choosin'

Every time you come to town, we wind up doin' the same thing
Gettin' high and running around, blame you tend on placin'

Well the fire in your blood is showin' through your eyes
The evil in your bones is takin' it's time
And your head told your heart it had enough today
Anita's dead upstairs with the dreams on the way
And I remember you when you left this town
But sing of love and codeine with you around
You left hear and found the world was cold
Now you're in my arms and you'll never grow old

Anita, Anita, I don't wanna need ya
But I see you when its dark and I'm alone
Anita, Anita, I came upstairs to feed ya
They warned me about detoxing at home
You will always be the most gorgeous girl I know

I pray sweet girl you finally made it home
'Cause you left in a room with your dreams alone
If I've learned a thing about this life
It's that the evil only comes when you're tryin' to do right

Anita, Anita, I don't wanna need ya
But I see you when its dark and I'm alone
Anita, Anita, I came upstairs to feed ya
They warned me about detoxing at home
You will always be the most gorgeous girl I know

You came runnin' for help this time
But the world's never fair to the hopeful kind

Anita, Anita, I don't wanna need ya
But I see you when its dark and I'm alone
Anita, Anita, I came upstairs to feed ya
They warned me about detoxing at home
You will always be the most gorgeous girl I know

Well the fire in your blood is showin' through your eyes
The evil in your bones is takin' it's time

I barely know if I'll be alive tomorrow
Let alone if the people I trust'll stay
So all I'll need while I'm breathin' is to be content this evenin'
Find hope in tomorrow either way
And I don't think those city girls are right for me
'Cause I don't fall for shallow pleasantries
And the conversation's nice but all the talkin' don't seem right
To a soul that prefers silence and the trees

'Cause I got hope in tomorrow and regret in yesterday
So if you could find a why to forgive me
Then maybe I could find just a piece of peace of mind
And carry on tomorrow hopefully
Carry on tomorrow hopefully

And this world's expectin' so much from the man
That get's so wrecked on Saturdays that he can barely stand
And I swear to ride this bronco until the wheels and my heart don't go
It's not you're fault if they don't understand

'Cause I got hope in tomorrow and regret in yesterday
So if you could find a why to forgive me
Then maybe I could find just a little peace of mind
And carry on tomorrow hopefully
And carry on tomorrow hopefully

And I went and talked to DeAnn at the bay

And she told me that everything just might be okay
I know you're jaded and you're faded and you're pissed off at the world
But you can only be the man you are today

'Cause I got hope in tomorrow and regret in yesterday
So if you could find a why to forgive me
Then maybe I could find just a piece of peace of mind
And carry on tomorrow hopefully
And carry on tomorrow hopefully

Well I guess old men on the street prove that time really does fly
And I guess pawn shop diamond rings proves that girls love goodbyes
And I guess a black dress at a funeral means that life has one sting
And I guess a girl like you lovin' me means that angels must love anything

'Cause I'm a messed up kid, nothin' to spare
I'll turn a saint into a heathen with my hands goin' through your hair
I'm a messed up kid with nothin to show
Except a girl sayin' she'll be here everywhere I go
I'm a messed up kid

Well my old man says I'm wild and my mama says I'm reckless
And that color in your eyes reminds me off East Texas

'Cause I'm a messed up kid, nothin' to spare
I'll turn a saint into a heathen with my hands goin' through your hair
Messed up kid with nothin to show
Except a girl sayin' she'll be here everywhere I go
I'm a messed up kid

And all this bullshit that I've been through
And all the hardships I've grown kin to
Could take me around, leave me feelin' down
But you pick me up every time

'Cause I'm a messed up kid, nothin' to spare
I'll turn a saint into a heathen with my hands goin' through your hair
I'm a messed up kid with nothin to show
Except a girl sayin' she'll be here everywhere I go

I'm a messed up kid

I'm a messed up kid, nothin' to spare
I'll turn a saint into a heathen with my hands goin' through your hair
Messed up kid

I guess old men on the street prove that time really does fly
And I guess pawn shop diamond rings proves that girls love goodbyes
I'm a messed up kid

How do I make you fall in love with me?
And how do I let you know I care?
And how would I say that the man you're laying with
Is not the man that should be laying there?

How would a boy like me put it?
A man with some sense probably wouldn't
But I don't give a damn, I am not a smarter man
So I'm gonna say some words I shouldn't

I had a dream I was falling, maybe that's a fucked up metaphor
Maybe it just means, when I meet you in my dreams
Nothing stops me from going through the floor

I know all the bad things about you
But I still think you're the purest of our kind
I remember being younger, with an awful pining hunger
For a food that a boy could never find
And a fear of a man so left behind

How do I make you fall in love with me?
Is it lost in the emptiness of apathy?
Should I fight for it like war, should I nail it down to boards
Or do I live in a love I'm dying for?

So I guess I'll just love you through the window
While you're dancing with the charmers in the room
And I'll slip out that door like I have a time before
And just let that lost loving loom

Just let that lost loving loom

Go ahead and make your money off a poor boy just like me
And I'll be pacin' in my room tonight tryna make some old scars bleed
Tryna write a plot line that you don't already know
'Bout the weekend crowd, or a reckless boy, or a girl from Ohio

They tell me I can sell my soul for a dream and a couple shows
I don't think they understand how deep loyalty goes
For some boys I got in a barn we built out of pure Douglas fir
Badly written songs next to horses' shit is what an Okie boy prefers

Go on and tell me what you wanna
While me and mine do what we're gonna
You can keep your name and burn the cash
Tell 'em I died singin' in these hills if they ask

I feel I've lived a thousand lives just to get right where I am
Some hurtful words and some Pabst on ice turn a child into a man
We started this thing grinnin' boys, I think we've gotta run
The radio man came to fuck it up as he boasts about number ones

Go on and tell me what you wanna
While me and mine do what we're gonna
You can keep your name and burn the cash
Tell 'em I died singin' in these hills if they ask

Go ahead and make your money off a poor boy just like me
And I'll be pacin' in my room tonight tryna make some old scars bleed
Tryna write a plot line that you don't already know
'Bout the weekend crowd, or a reckless boy, or a girl from Ohio

I've heard all the stories of you back in your prime
How you held all your pride in hands stained
And you'd go to work for a breadcrumbs and dirt
So your kids could stand tall in their name

And you'd told me, "Son, they're things to be done
When you're older and stronger like me"
You give all you have just to be a good dad
And you'll die a thousand times just to please

An old man, the blood that you bled
And the mouths that you fed at your door
An old man, the sweat that you pour
Proves that they don't make 'em like you no more
An old man, the dinners you missed
So your daughters could eat at this table
An old man, I would give back
All the things that you've lacked if I's able

I've never seen you smile like you did out in Pineville
When the crowd screamed the words of your kid
And you told me, "Boy, it's been a long hard road
In this life that I've chose for my kin.
And I wish and I pray I could go back in time
So I could raise up this family again."

An old man, the blood that you bled
And the mouths that you fed at your door
An old man, the sweat that you pour
Proves that they don't make 'em like you no more
An old man, the dinners you missed
So your daughters could eat at this table
An old man, I would give back
All the things that you've lacked if I's able

I've heard all the stories of you back in your prime
How you held all your pride in hands stained

Free
Free

Don't try, man, don't you dare
Keep her from livin' her life out there
'Cause she was meant for soaring
And you were built for work

She likes the way that you smoke cigarettes
And you like the way that she never regrets
Holdin' onto you like no one ever has

If you were the darkness, then she'd be the sun
There's some things in life that you cannot outrun
The fact that she was meant for so much more than you

A boy like you, with your faded tattoos
Raspy voice, and a shitty attitude
A motorcycle she likes holdin' tight to you on
A boy like you, with your stories of shame
And all of the reasons she won't have your name
If you love that girl, then you've got to set her free

Free
Free

If you were the darkness, then she'd be the sun
There's some things in life that you cannot outrun
The fact that she was meant for so much more than you

A boy like you, with your faded tattoos
Raspy voice, and a shitty attitude
A motorcycle she likes holdin' tight to you on
A boy like you, with your stories of shame
And all of the reasons she won't have your name
If you love that girl, then you've got to set her free

Free
Free

You ain't no shrinkin' violet are you?
And you love to bat your eyelids, don't you?
You know all the times that I'm ashamed
And all those words you said, misspoken
To all those boys who left you broken
Ain't no need for placing any blame

'Cause if it wasn't for you cryin' there
In Ohio just last year
All the love I got would've been in vain
So I'll wake up for work
And tug a little on your shirt
Hope you know the depths I'd go would be insane

For a girl like you
Who needs trust but needs freedom
Who wants love
But would be fine on her own
For a girl like you
With your daddy's mannerisms
And a soft smile
Makes the distance less alone

In a world that's full of wanting what is next
I'll stay here with you, Elisabeth

You are here at just the right time
At twenty-three years, it's felt a lifetime
My momma, she must trust you through and through
'Cause she left me with a girl like you

A girl like you
Who needs trust but needs freedom
Who wants love
But would be fine on her own
For a girl like you
With your daddy's mannerisms
And a soft smile

Makes the distance less alone

In a world that's full of wanting what is next
I'll stay here with you, Elisabeth

You ain't no shrinkin' violet are you?
And you love to bat your eyelids, don't you?
You know all the times that I'm ashamed

You look like you've been through hell
But came back clean on the other side
Oh I know I didn't treat you well
But you'll be treated like a queen
Tonight

So darlin won't you lie back
And just let an old flame warm you
I know I'm not the same me
And Lord knows you're not the old you

So babe just pack your things
And I swear that we won't come back
You're about as pretty as those
Washington Lilacs

I roll up with a killer in my hand
And I'll never claim to be
Better than I am

You look like a killer in that dress
So I guess my aim is to be your man
So darlin won't you lie back
And just let an old flame warm you
I know I'm not the same me
And Lord knows you're not the old you

So babe just pack your things

And I swear that we won't come back
You're about as pretty as those
Washington Lilacs

So darlin won't you lie down and
Let an old flame warm you
I know I'm not the same me
And Lord knows you're not the old you

So babe just pack your things
And I swear that we won't come back
You're about as pretty as those
Washington Lilacs

Gather 'round this table, boys
You bring your shame, I'll lose my voice
Screaming at the gods about the bad we've done
Merle said mama tried but the prison still won

Your transgressions are mine as well
Anger grows in my bones if you could not tell
But I'll find comfort in company
Lord forgive us, my boys and me

We're having an all-night revival
Someone call the women and someone steal the Bibles
For the sake of my survival
Baptize me in a bottle of Beam and put Johnny on the vinyl

Well the devil can scrap but the Lord has won
And I'll talk to him on the rising sun
His son rose and mine did too
I was coming down but now I'm talking to you

'Cause we're having an all-night revival
Someone call the women and someone steal the Bibles
For the sake of my survival
Baptize me in a bottle of Beam and put Johnny on the vinyl

'Cause we're having an all-night revival
Someone call the women and someone steal the Bibles
For the sake of my survival
Baptize me in a bottle of Beam and put Johnny on the vinyl

Gather 'round this table, boys
Bring your shame, I'll lose my voice
Screaming at the gods about the bad we've done
Merle said mama tried but the prison still won

Take me out to see the stars I been dying to
Past few weeks I've given my last ounce of trying too
And everything I wanna say is always on the tip of my tongue tied, twisted tongue
Like how I miss my old friends and the blood rush of being young

And I'm just gonna be honest for the first time in a while
I miss the way her home smelled, her southern accent, the way she made me smile
But now I'm coming home all alone tired to my bones, country roads treat me fair
I haven't even the seen the gravestone that I paid to have placed there

He said, "Son don't you miss that southern sun keeping you warm
Before you ever sang a word and the lines of liars formed "
But those cicadas in the back acres, are waiting on you
And every damn word of the bird hunter still rings true

It's kind of hard finding God once you get sober
I know I'm not a good man, but I know I'm one step closer
You seem to know me so well now that I'm doing okay
But I heard silence on the phone when you heard me struggle yesterday
Yeah, I heard silence on the phone when you heard me struggle yesterday

Won't you take me out to see the stars I been dying to
The past few weeks I've given my last ounce of trying to
Everything I wanna say is always on the tip of my tied up twisted tongue
Like how I miss my old friends, and the blood rush of being young

Highwater or hell, damn what comes tomorrow
Cause I will give you all the love
God's given me to borrow

There's so many lying people
And to them I pay no mind
You know all the things about me
That I've made hard to find
And I go out on a limb
To tell you sink or swim
Cause this is the last love
That I'll give myself in

I'll say hell or highwater
You're the one I want with me
When the flood seeps in and the fire rises
We'll show them loyalty
Highwater or hell, damn what comes tomorrow
I will give you all the love
God's given me to borrow

I'll say hell or highwater
You're the one I want with me
When the flood seeps in and the fire rises
We'll show them loyalty
Highwater or hell, damn what comes tomorrow
I will give you all the love
God's given me to borrow
I will give you all the love
God's given me to borrow

I heard life is what passes when you're too busy living
And love is at its finest when times are hard
May your lady always keep you from the vices you've been after
May the Lord always love you where you are

I'm heading down the road I guess
Another good time I'll regret
But I wish that I was coming home to you
Late July, oh my, all in good time
Praying that my girl is fine
Sleeping in while rain falls on the roof

I hope your sunsets always bleed red
And your family's always well fed
And the song stuck in your head
Plays all night

I'm heading down the road I guess
Another good time I'll regret
But I wish that I was coming home to you
Late July, oh my, all in good time
Praying that my girl is fine
Sleeping in while rain falls on the roof

I'm heading down the road I guess
Another good time I'll regret
But I wish that I was coming home to you
Late July, oh my, all in good time
Praying that my girl is fine
Sleeping in while rain falls on the roof

It'll be fine by dusk light, I'm tellin' you, baby
These things eat at your bones and drive your young mind crazy
But when you place your head between my collar and jaw
I don't know much, but there's no weight at all

And I'm damned if I do and I'm damned if I don't
'Cause if I say I miss you, I know that you won't
But I miss you in the mornings when I see the sun
Somethin' in the orange tells me we're not done

To you, I'm just a man; to me, you're all I am

Where the hell am I supposed to go?
I poisoned myself again, somethin' in the orange
Tells me you're never comin' home
If you leave today, I'll just stare at the way
The orange touches all things around
The grass trees and dew, how I just hate you
Please turn those headlights around

I need to hear you say you've been waitin' all night
There's orange dancin' in your eyes from bulb light
Your voice only trembles when you try to speak
Take me back to us dancin', this wood used to creak

To you, I'm just a man; to me, you're all I am
Where the hell am I supposed to go?
I poisoned myself again, somethin' in the orange
Tells me you're never comin' home
If you leave today, I'll just stare at the way
The orange touches all things around
The grass trees and dew, how I just hate you
Please turn those headlights around

To you, I'm just a man; to me, you're all I am
Where the hell am I supposed to go?
I poisoned myself again, somethin' in the orange
Tells me you're never comin' home
If you leave today, I'll just stare at the way
The orange touches all things around
The grass, trees, and dew, how I just hate you
Please turn those headlights around
Please turn those headlights around

Remember when David dashed
A twelve pack
Of Budweiser heavy for the road
Two kids in the back
Drunk off their ass

Screaming in an old Bronco

And I recall what she said
That she wanted me dead
But there ain't no grave deep enough
Remember all the nights we had
You said it ain't so bad
Keep those heavy eyes looking up

Remember when Mary brought
Her own Jane
Lucas thought he was gonna die
The stars started falling out
Of a night cloud
From a clear Midwestern sky

I recall what she said
Screaming that the sky is red
Burning to a younger man's mind
Remember all the days we had
I'd say it ain't so bad
Keep those heavy eyes soft and kind

Oh when I'm old
I will recall
All the nights we spent outlaws
It's getting cold
But that sun is cresting
And heavy eyes ain't born for resting

Who's gonna drive us home
The boys and me
Are walking staggered vision blurred
One thing you'll come to know
The boys back home
Live for things like dead man's curve

I recall what he said
He'd rather be gone and dead
Than livin' like those sad folks in town
I can't take this soul with me
If I go I'm goin' quickly
Keep those heavy eyes free and proud

Oh when I'm old
I will recall
All the nights we spent outlaws
It's getting cold
But that sun is cresting
And heavy eyes ain't born for resting

Oh when I'm old
I will recall
All the nights we spent outlaws
It's getting cold
But the sun in cresting
And heavy eyes ain't born for resting

You are mine again, every mistake that you made
All the people that you saved that took a little piece of you with them
You are mine again, and I'm so damn glad you're here
Talking strong, sober, and clear like you couldn't back then
How many sad songs it take, to get your stubborn ass awake?
What finally got you rising from your bed?
Was it the sunset on her cheeks, leading down to a delicate collar bone, or judgement of your
mind when you're alone?

Mine again, my fondest friend where the hell you been?
I've been struggling to get back to you
And if you fight all night I'm sure you'll gain the guts to try
To get past the things that you've been through
'Cause no one plays it cool quite the way you do

Are those tires you got still turning? Is the spirit you had still burning?
Do you still talk that shit the way you did before?
All the women and the wages and the wars that I've been waging
I just don't feel like fighting anymore

Mine again, my fondest friend where the hell you been?
I've been struggling to get back to you
And if you fight all night I'm sure you'll gain the guts to try
To get past the things that you've been through

'Cause no one plays it cool quite the way you do

Mine again

So head back home and be who you know you can

Mine again

So don't be so cruel and play God with all his plans

Well I am mine again, every mistake that I make

And I ain't ashamed to say who the hell I am

'Cause I am mine again, and I'm so damn glad I'm here

Talking strong, sober, and clear like I couldn't back then

Well, I've been pacing this room for forty hours

Crawling up the wall and trying not to call

And I saw you walking in a supermarket aisle

I didn't say a word 'cause you had the biggest smile

And I've been thinking of you in the morning times

You woke me up so soft, I forgot the world ain't kind

I'd pull you in and you'd kiss me through a grin

And you'd say you missed me when you were busy sleeping

But what if I said, happy instead

Is the way that I reckon it should be

And if you'd call, you'd say that you're okay

And I'd be wishing I was dead

'Cause you're happy instead, happy instead

And I've been dreaming of the life we woulda had

Happy at times but mostly just mad

Maybe it all worked out, maybe it'd been fine

But every day your smile ain't showing seems a waste of time

So what if I said, happy instead

Is the way that I reckon it should be

And if you'd call, you'd say that you're okay

And I'd be wishing I was dead

'Cause you're happy instead, happy instead

And it's been ten years, I haven't called you once
But you called last night and my child up and jumped
He asked who you were and you did the same
Handed me the phone and I couldn't recall your name

What if I said, happy instead
Is the way that I reckon I should be
And if you'd call, you'd hear that I was okay
And you'd be wishing you was dead
'Cause I'm happy instead, happy instead
Oh, I'm happy instead
Happy instead

What if I said, happy instead
Is the way that I reckon I should be
And if you call, you'd hear that I'm okay
And you'd be wishing you was dead
'Cause I'm happy instead

Okay, one take, one take

This whole world is always waiting on tomorrow
Itching, fiending for whatever happens next
But what if I told you they're all lying
And I love you for who you are right now, the best
Everyone thinks they're going the wrong way
But they're looking at their maps all wrong
'Cause everywhere's somewhere to someone
And in a rush, you cannot dance to smooth slow songs

So, I'm gonna slow on down, someday, somehow
Today ain't different from the rest
And the you that I pine for, oh the you that I need
Oh, the you of right now is the best

This hating heart healed by the hopeful
And I think I got a song that you'll like
It's awfully long and such a throatful

But it's perfect for a night like tonight
About you on the coasting water
Those white waves crash 'cross your skin
One of those days you miss already
And it ain't even had the damn chance to end
And I think grandfather's gone crazy
He keeps rambling on about way back when
Bragging 'bout grandma and war times
All the friends that he's lost once again

So I'm gonna slow on down, someway, somehow
Today ain't different from the rest
Oh the you that I pine for, oh the you that I need
Oh the you of right now is the best

Well I want a home on the outskirts of town
Come around sundown to hear the sound
Kids and the crickets under pinky skies
Swing on by 'cause we're drinking tonight

Well, in my mind, trees line the drive
There's a kind, loving lady belly laughing inside
And in the morning while we're drinking brew
She'll say, "The city ain't nothing like the outskirts with you"

And fireflies and some scheming eyes
Will turn this house into a home
Then we'll grin in the driveway
Hell, your smile outdoes the dawn
Hold on, hope is on the way
Oh, I swear to God
I'll take you to the outskirts one day

Well I want a home on the outskirts of town
Where the wind chimes sing to the porch swing crowd
June into August, August to May
With the sun beating down or the snow in the way

The smell of fresh-cut grass in the yard
I don't care who you are, drink a fifth, bring your heart
You put down the tailgate, I'll put down a tune
'Cause out in the 'skirts we move and shake with the moon

With fireflies and some scheming eyes
We'll turn this house into a home
Then we'll grin in the driveway
Hell, your smile outdoes the dawn
Hold on, hope is on the way
Oh, I swear to God
I'll take you to the outskirts one day
Oh, I swear to God
I'll take you to the outskirts one day

With fireflies and some scheming eyes
We'll turn this house into a home
Then we'll grin in the driveway
Hell, your smile outdoes the dawn
Hold on, hope is on the way
Oh, I swear to God
We'll make it to the outskirts one day
Oh, I swear to God
We'll make it to the outskirts one day

Two, one two three four

Johnny's in the drive and he's drinking again
Rough crowd downtown but they're all my friends
By the end of the night I won't recall my name
Well my Levi jean queen, I've been here all night, see
Someday I'll take you somewhere it never rains
But for right now I'm tearing down this town
How being young is so painful and strange

Deborah's on the bar and she's dancing again

To an old folk song that reminds her of him
She ain't getting down till they carry her away
She was his Levi jean queen but he's long gone now, see
At the end of the night she'll get choked up by his name
And she'll try her best just to let him go
Well, she's sick and tired of his rough and younger ways

Letting go, moving on, keeping strong and finding God
I find it awfully odd we made it here
A few good friends on the longest night, getting high until we cry
Enjoying all the pain of younger years

And now I'm drunk and walking home all alone, my honey
Looking for a better place to spend my money
Like taking my Levi jean queen to see the stars
Tougher than a lover and leaner than a fighter
Looks to me we got another all-nighter
I think God put us exactly where we are

Letting go, moving on, keeping strong and finding God
I find it awfully odd we made it here
A few good friends on the longest night, getting high until we cry
Enjoying all the pain of younger years
Enjoying all the pain of younger years

Well Johnny's in the drive and he's drinking again
Rough crowd downtown but they're all my friends
By the end of the night I won't recall my name

Them damn cold vampires been keeping me awake
Tryna build an empire off things that they can take
But don't let 'em steal your hope, child, and turn it something green
Damn you and damn all your ties to this machine
Your ties to this machine

You moved to the city, girl, to make something of yourself
But them vampires are groping you every night on East and 12th

So every night you carry a knife and some spray
To keep them bloodsuckers at least a four-inch blade away
A four-inch blade away

Them damn cold vampires been keeping me awake
Tryna build an empire off things that they can take
But don't let 'em steal your hope, child, and turn it something green
So damn you and damn all your ties to this machine
Your ties to this machine

So you wanna be an artist, make something that makes sense
'Cause them vampires will take every ounce of the blood that you can give
Never let 'em speak and don't let 'em tell a lie
Let 'em know that you're walking alone to a warm home tonight

Them damn cold vampires been keeping me awake
Tryna build an empire off things that they can take
But don't let 'em steal your hope, child, and turn it something green
Damn you and damn all your ties to this machine
Your ties to this machine

But there's hope for the mortal, to stay clear and stay true
So look out for the vampires, that are on the hunt for you
Cause they're on the hunt for you

Them damn cold vampires been keeping me awake
Tryna build an empire off things that they can take
But don't let 'em steal your hope, child, and turn it something green
Damn you and damn all your ties to this machine
Your ties to this machine
Your ties to this machine

Well I don't think that the city moves slow enough for me
So I'm gonna leave now and I ain't showing no warnings
And I know that mama said that love'll always lead you home
But I been following this lonely road for way too long

So won't you pray for me tonight?
I've been heading down a dark cold road
I've been dreaming of a porch swing with some lights
Hoping I can find myself back home

Now I'm breaking horses out in Tishomingo
And every night I lie there and wonder where good men's dreams go
And most nights I wonder how far train cars can travel
Or how far a man can go before one's truly unraveled

So won't you pray for me tonight?
I've been heading down a dark cold road
And I've been dreaming of a porch swing with some lights
Hoping I can find myself back home

Don't jump in so quick kid, you're gonna wind up hurt
She's with a new man in New York the last time I heard
And I know that mama said that love'll always lead me home
But I been following a lonely road for way too long

So won't you pray for me tonight?
I've been heading down a dark cold road
I've been dreaming of a you by my side
Praying I can get myself back home

Well, the moon in New York tonight was beautiful
I wish you were around to see it too
I'm so happy I could cry
Why'd you'd have to go and die like that?
It's a shame when people ain't around to see
The smiles that they nurture, the laughter they breed
These people don't know me
And I don't plan on showing what I've seen

And I threw up on a corner in Philadelphia
She said, "Boy, there ain't no real point in helping ya"
The only thing you've ever owned

Were high hopes and a pocket comb, you fool

So don't act like you know who I am
Cause the more I'll explain the less you'll understand
Them assholes downtown are the only ones around that even try

So look up tonight, the moon, she's shining
And we'll be alright, 'cause she's still smiling
The city lights would blow mama's mind
The more I search, the less I find
But I'm alright
'Cause she's here tonight
Oh, she's alright

And I still recall the night you were heading home
You were fighting so hard, I knew you couldn't be alone
Your hand in my hand
I knew I had to be a man from that night on
And I'll tell you all these stories one day
And we'll laugh like we used to and waste the night away
You'll say, "Boy, how I've missed ya"
But son, I was with you this whole time

So look up tonight, the moon, she's shining
And we'll be alright, 'cause she's still smiling
The city lights would blow mama's mind
The more I search, the less I find
But I'm alright
'Cause she's here tonight
Oh, she's alright
She's alright
Oh, she's alright

The moon in New York tonight was beautiful
I wish you were around to see it too
Well I'm so down that I could cry
Why'd my best friend up and die like that?

You are my sunshine, my only sunshine
You make me happy when skies are gray
You'll never know dear how much I love you
So please don't take my sunshine away

The other night dear, as I lay sleeping
I dreamt I held you in my tired arms
When I awoke dear, I was mistaken
So I bowed my head and I cried

You are my sunshine, my only sunshine
You make me happy when skies are gray
You'll never know dear how much I love you
So please don't take my sunshine away

I've always loved you, made you happy
And nothin' else could come between
But now you've left me to love another
And you shattered all my dreams

You are my sunshine, my only sunshine
You make me happy when skies are gray
You'll never know dear how much I love you
So please don't take my sunshine away

You are my sunshine, my only sunshine
You make me happy when skies are gray
You'll never know dear, how much I love you
So please don't take my sunshine away

Won't you hold me through the shakes, darling?
Well, it's fine if you cut and run
At first light of the cresting sun
But right now I'm fiending
And if you're still in town
When my better days roll around

We'll heat this ground
And dance like two hearts bleeding

This city is so loud and the hotel kicked me out
Do you think that she's still proud looking down?
The world got so confusing, I'm a tool for cheap amusement
And they all hate me from here to Tennessee

So hold me through the shakes, although it's more than I can take
There ain't no choice for damaged boys like me
Hold me through the shakes, although it's more than you can take
And when you wake, you'll still be my darling
When you wake, I'm yours to take, darling

Let me have my bloody knuckles
All my nights and dark cold trouble
When I was through I was hoping
You might wait for me
They made me out to be
Something I don't understand
How I am just a man, my darling

Now I'm lost in Denver
With a postcard I could send ya
But I don't know of any good it'd do
So I'll photograph the lights
'Cause they remind me of your eyes
And pray for you until I untangle this blue

Hold me through the shakes, although it's more than I can take
There ain't no choice for damaged boys like me
Hold me through the shakes, although it's more than you can take
And when you wake, you'll still be my darling
When you wake, I'm yours to take, darling

Well, hold me through the shakes, although it's more than I can take
There ain't no choice for damaged boys like me
Hold me through the shakes, although it's more than you can take
And when you wake, you'll still be my darling
When you wake, I'm yours to take, darling

Look at me, so damaged and destroyed
With this world's plans and its ploys to take me out
I'm on a highway directly to the moon
With no plans on stopping soon
I'm leaving town

Them Christian's are talking so often of coffins
No Heavens could top this moment now

My foot out the window and my flask halfway full
I may have to pull over soon
I can't afford a motel, but the floorboards will work well
And I'll sleep there til tomorrow afternoon
And I'll get on the road again, had another chance at fittin' in
Fittin' in to kids like me is dyin'
And I know when I'm with you
After one shot or 22 and a cigarette
I feel like flying I'm flyin'

But them Christian's are talking so often of coffins
No Heavens could top this moment now
I've searched and I've found to get to that ninth cloud
You must trek through some dark and troubled grounds
So may we all
Just once or twice
Once in this life, just look around
Usually I'm a wreck
But the hard times were just a step
To get where I am on this ninth cloud

We're singing, feeling good again
Just passed 3:04 AM
And I'm talking like the sun will never rise
But the sun will crest the trees and bring this devil to his knees
As it outlines the silver in these skies

Them Christian's are talking so often of coffins
No heavens could top this moment now
I've searched and I've found to get to that ninth cloud
You must trek through some dark and troubled grounds
So may we all
Just once or twice

Once in this life, just look around
Usually I'm a wreck
But the hard times were just a step
To get where I am on this ninth cloud

Old friend, it's been awhile, I ain't spoke to you in years
And often times boys from this town put wheels down and disappear
Mrs. Cole asked about you just three days back, and I had no answer to give her
I told her that you moved way out West to write some songs and grow a little more bitter
The kids talk about you around here like you're some kind of legend
I wonder if they know a thousand sunrises ago you were eager just like them?

But if you ever decide to bring your pain and your pride back to this side of Oklahoma City
There'll be a porch light on from the post you leaned on 'fore you wound up on the wrong side of
pity
And often times I pray for you and often times I don't
Is it the goodbyes that haunt you, or the fear of new hellos?
Won't stay long cause you won't stop your running
Wait for tomorrow until tomorrow's not coming

Heard you landed in Tulsa while he slipped away
Is that the reason your fleeing the fields we hauled hay?
The heat this July or the dark last December
Look in my eyes and you might remember
The weed out in Norman or the Stillwater strip
Run far enough boy and you're bound to trip

But if you ever decide to bring your pain and your pride back to this side of Oklahoma City
There'll be a porch light on from the post you leaned on 'fore you wound up on the wrong side of
pity
And often times I pray for you and often times I don't
Is it the goodbyes that haunt you, or the fear of new hellos?
Never stay long cause you won't stop your running
Wait for tomorrow until tomorrow's not coming
Send it

If you ever decide to bring your pain and your pride back to this side of Oklahoma City
There'll be a porch light on from the post you leaned on 'fore you wound up on the wrong side of
pity
And often times I pray for you and often times I don't
Is it the goodbyes that haunt you, or the fear of new hellos?
Never stay long cause you won't stop your running
Wait for tomorrow until tomorrow's not coming

Five thirty-four AM, I was about to start my day
But she laid there across me so I stayed anyway
Arms tied, legs numb, wrapped around my knee
Sweetest of the sunflowers, how you're the sun to me

I don't recall what you were wearing on the first night we met
Besides the subtle cloud around you from my last cigarette
And you come from a good place with a happy family
The only bad you've ever done was see the good in me

'Cause I've been living, waiting on the day
That the good Lord willing sends you out my way
I've seen hard times, bad luck, all that in-between
Sweetest of the sunflowers, how you're the sun to me

I remember being younger and my mother told me true
Find someone who grows flowers in the darkest parts of you
Take heed when things get hard, and don't you ever turn around
You'll find someone, someday, somewhere that grows you to the clouds

And you walked me home that evening when I could barely walk
And you spoke to me so sweetly on the days I couldn't talk
Now I'm seeing clearly and I'm growing up so free
Sweetest of the sunflowers, how you're the sun to me

I've been living, waiting on the day
That the good lord, willing sends you out my way
I've seen hard times, bad luck, all that in between

Sweetest of the sunflowers, how you're the sun to me
Sweetest of the sunflowers, how you're the sun to me

Highway boys on the road tonight
Got a gig out at the Ryman
Finally learned the hard way, that
All good things take time, friend

I heard they'll pay a lost soul
To sing his songs true
That make a southern boy cry or
Turn a northeast man confused

And I awoke with a fever
Sweating oceans again
There's mirrors in hotel rooms
But I do not recognize them
Maybe it's the feeling that I, get in my sleep
That all the memories in my mind
Are only mine to keep

I wanna ride that K-10 to way back when
Sleep next to the river, hear it rushing again
Get my no good soul back to where it belongs
And do my best to keep truth in songs
Do my best to keep truth in songs

And all of my old friends miss having me around
But, highways work both ways
And I can't stand the liars in town
If you need me you can find me
Slightly out of control
'Cause Highway boys don't rest
And don't hang hats 'til their home

Highway boys on the road tonight

Got a gig out at the Ryman
They finally found out the hard way
That this sound I got is mine man

So, if you need me call
If you're in love, fall
Just know that highway boys
Don't stick around at all

I wanna ride that K-10 to way back when
Sleep next to the river, hear it rushing again
Get my no good soul back to where it belongs
And do my best to keep truth in songs
Do my best to keep truth in songs

Highway boys on the road tonight
Got a gig out at the Ryman
They finally found out the hard way
That this sound I got is mine man

Got a whiskey drinking fever that I cannot shake
And those girls downtown are more than I can take
High-waisted rockies and the sailor's mouths
And the boys in the back of the bar screamin' loud

Oh, whiskey river take me home

And I smell like cologne and cigarettes
But I ain't found a lady or a bar fight yet
I'll wait around just to stir shit up
That whiskey river flowing ain't ever enough

Oh, whiskey river take me home

'Cause I'm a heavy-drinking hard-hitting good ol' boy
There ain't a man in this county that you keep me employed

Can't stay sober past 11 a.m
My breath smells like my regrets again

Oh, whiskey river take me home

I had a woman in Wisconsin, and a woman in Maine
But they told me that they'd never love a man so insane
I head to Oklahoma with the flask and a comb
Do my best to find another place I can roam

Oh, whiskey river take me home

There was no one in town that would give me a ride
So I waited for my heavy drunkenness to subside
Stole a pick-up truck from a gas station pump
I pray to the Lord for a run of good luck

Oh, whiskey river take me home

Yeah

And I was four hundred miles down Highway 10
All of a sudden I was arrested again
They told me eight years in the county pen
Or eight years in the army killing evil men

Oh, whiskey river take me home

Now there's sand in my boots
Sand in my eyes
Sand everywhere that sand can hide
How I miss those downtown girls
And that whiskey river that ruined my world
Oh, Uncle Sam I wanna go home

I had a whiskey drinking fever that I could not shake
And those girls downtown were more than I could take
The high-waisted rockies and the sailor's mouths
Boys in the back of the bar screaming loud

Oh, whiskey river take me home
Oh, whiskey river I wanna go home

Billy won't you stay
You've been up all night
Talking 'bout flowers from '65
That print on that dress
That you always liked
We were young enough
To go out and dance at night

We'd cross the street
And you'd hold my hand
Same man now
That you were back then
Young kids, good for nothing
But high hoping
Broken, starving plastic ring
Perfect for eloping

Years went by fast
You were so good to me
Our children have children
Billy, how could it be
But 90 years is nothing
To some kids like us
So baby stick around
And tell a story just because

Billy stay a while
Lately you've been slipping in and out
Billy stay a child
Tell me 'bout that girl you dreamed about
Billy stay a while
Tell me of the lovers who once were
Billy stay a child
Tell me bout' that girl and how you loved her

Billy don't forget
Won't you keep on trying

I'll keep my ears open
To keep from crying
You're more handsome now
Than you were back then
And I'm the same girl you fell for
When we were kids

If love was enough
Then you'd stay forever
But I guess sometimes
That the end is better
'Cause love turns to loss
As the time goes by
You don't know your own name
But you know mine

Billy stay a while
Lately you've been slipping in and out
Billy stay a child
Tell me 'bout that girl you dreamed about
Billy stay a while
Tell of the lovers who once were
Billy stay a child
Tell me 'bout that girl and how you loved her

And you went back home
In your sleep last night
And I heard you whisper
"I love you goodbye"
But maybe your Heaven's 1965
With my hair in your face
On a long summer drive
To me you'll never be
The times you forgot
But all of our good times
And flowers you bought

Dark-haired girl, too much Jack Daniels
I'll be honest, right now I am too drunk to handle
Dark brown eyes and a neck tattoo
I am next to you when I'm a thousand miles away
Wildflowers, picked on a hillside
You just let die, that's where I learned decay
People come then they stay and they go
Someone please let me know when growing up grew so old

'Cause the sober side of sorry ain't a safe place to be
There's a cigarette rolling through the tips of clenched teeth
I don't need much, just somewhere to sleep
Someone please remind me who the hell I used to be
The sober side of sorry ain't a safe place to sleep
The sober side of sorry ain't a safe place to be

Dark-haired girl, summertime crop top
In a '89 drop-top, rolling eyes at me
Is it love, is it lust or leaving?
Am I awake or dreaming, the woman I need
Wildflowers and a neck tattoo
I am next to you and I ain't ever gonna stay
I remember a time I was sober
But those days are over, I need a beer to celebrate

'Cause the sober side of sorry ain't a safe place to be
There's a cigarette rolling through the tips of my teeth
I don't need much, just somewhere to sleep
Someone please remind me who the hell I used to be
The sober side of sorry ain't a safe place to sleep
The sober side of sorry ain't a safe place to be

'Cause the sober side of sorry ain't a safe place to sleep
There's a cigarette rolling through the tips of my teeth
I don't need much, just somewhere to sleep
Someone please remind me who the hell I used to be
The sober side of sorry ain't a safe place to sleep
The sober side of sorry ain't a safe place to be

I got too high on the couch last Sunday, she said it was fine
You worked hard all week and deserve you a little time
And this one, she don't want money, but she wants the stars
So tonight I'm taking her out and we're getting ours

So come on, get in baby, won't you try me?
I've got your favorite song mixed in with the high beams
If we don't go right now, we'll never know
So come on, get in, let's see how far this goes

You'll burn down this city with a classy little smile
But I swear I like you better when you're dancing under lights in the hall
You're as kind as the morning, giving all things light
And there's some high beams mixing with your favorite song driving tonight

So come on, get in baby, won't you try me?
I've got your favorite song mixed in with the high beams
If we don't leave right now, we'll never know
So come on, get in, let's see how far this goes

I got too high on the couch last Sunday, she said it was fine
You worked hard all week and deserve you a little time

So come on, get in baby, won't you try me?
I've got your favorite song mixed in with the high beams
If we don't leave right now, we'll never know
So come on, let's just see how far it goes

Well in you
The good I'll do
The good I'll do
Oh, the good I'll do

The way the grass smells at night
And you got flames all in your eyes

As they reflect the sparkler
And you say we'll never die
Grabbed me by the hands
Just as callused as I am
Say you're proud

Well it's blue jeans in the driveway
And you're walking inside sideways
The wine always affects you
In beautiful kind ways
Ask me if I'm staying
And I say that I'm sleeping on the floor

Won't you tell me that you need me
'Cause lately I've been needing
Someone to remind me
Worth more than just an evening
I awoke to kitchen smoke
You dancing like God's moved in you before

Well in you
The good I'll do
The good I'll do
Oh, the good I'll do
Well in you
I'm new
I'm new
Oh, how I'm new

Well look in my eyes
I don't wanna hide
I've been waiting for you
All damn night
Sundress I'll undress
With nails on your skin
Turning white

Getting high out in Austin
Drunk in Tennessee
I don't care where I am
As long as you're with me
Those boys downtown talk so much shit when I leave

Well in you

The good I'll do
The good I'll do
Oh, the good I'll do
'Cause in you
I'm new
I'm new
Oh, how I'm new

The way the grass smells at night
And you got flames all in your eyes
As they reflect the sparkler
And you say we'll never die
Grab me by the hands
Just as calloused as I am
And say you're proud

Someday, I'll make it there, I swear, to that place that haunts my dreams at night
Singing heavenly highway hymns all the way up to that beautiful old countryside
Someday, I'll find the words to explain all the good times that echo through my mind
Your grin in the mornings, a warm southern sun, or seeing double when those chemicals align
Just some kids who needed love, using laughter as their drug, doing their best to tow that hard
line
Someday, I will lie under blue skies, in a hay field that holds me like home
I'll ask forgiveness with God as my witness for straying so far on my own

Today, I will hold my head up high
Knowing someday, comes one day at a time
Today, there's a sun setting soon as suppers warm
Today, I've got someday on my mind

Someday, I'll call up my old friends and we'll catch up with too many beers
Pull an all-nighter, sitting around fire, for the first time in so many years

Someday

Someday, I will come to my senses, stop sitting on fences in fear
And I will realize, after all of this time that some day was always just right here

Today, I will hold my head up high, knowing some day has been here the whole damn time
There's a sun set setting, I ain't forgetting, the blood that made my heart warm
Today, I found what I was searching for

Someday, I will send you a postcard from the place that I'm smiling tonight
I sang heavenly highway hymns all the way up to this beautiful warm country side

I've been overdrinking
'Cause I've been overthinking
'Cause I get so damn anxious at night
Chemicals and nicotine
Friends ask how you've been
You just learn to say you're alright

Poems and closing time
Oh, sweet love of mine
I found it so hard to find truth
Poems and closing time
Oh, sweet love of mine
It'll always just be me and you

And those bastards get richer
While the poor dig ditches
To bury their dreaming in
And labor done cheap
At five AM
Is the reason they're sleeping in

Oh men build churches
So the kids find worth in
Something bigger than themselves
But the uncorruptible
Don't exist
And you can't buy your way outta hell

Closing time
I'm lost again past two
Closing time
It'll always just be me and you

I've been overdrinking
'Cause I've been overthinking
'Cause I get so damn anxious at night
Chemicals and nicotine
Friends ask me how I've been
You just learn to say you're alright

Poems and closing time
Oh, sweet love of mine
I found it so hard to find truth
Poems and closing time
Only true friend of mine
It'll always just be me and you

So don't try to pay me
And don't try to play me
As one of your sorry fools
Poems and closing time
Oh, sweet love of mine
In a world that's growing so cruel

There is concrete below me and a sky above so blue
I'm finally leaving Austin and I wish it was with you
I am just a sickness and you seem to be the cure
How much can a southern girl honestly endure?
Remember northwest mountains, that were snow-capped in June
You were napping on my arms on a Sunday afternoon
But babe, I've gotta heal myself from the things I've never felt
Repression is my heaven but I'd rather go through hell

It's 'bout time that I left Austin

'Bout time you settled down
With a man who doesn't move as quick
As the trains rolling through town
'Bout time that I face
The hard times I've let go
If love is just an ocean
I would drown before I float

Do you remember getting drunk on the outskirts of this town
When I gave you all I had but it still let you down?
Everyone I ever loved has either left or died
Wish I was born with concrete shoes but I'm leaving tonight

It's 'bout time that I left Austin
'Bout time you settled down
With a man who doesn't move as quick
As the trains rolling through town
'Bout time that I face
The hard times I've let go
If love is just an ocean
I would drown before I float

Float
Float

There's concrete below me and a sky above so blue
People ruin people, I don't wanna ruin you
I am just a sickness and you seem to be the cure
How much can a southern girl honestly endure?

And I'm finally gone from Austin
You finally settled down
With a man who didn't move as quick
As the trains rolled through town
I finally had to face
The hard times I've let go
If loving you's an ocean
I'd have drowned so you could float

She wants a cowboy, so I just might
Find me some boots that fit me right
Chew some tobacco, ride me a Bronco
On a southern Saturday night
And I ain't never rode a horse
Or worn a cowboy hat
But I'll find me one that fits my head
And she won't know any of that

I keep walking this town
Tryna get me some advice
But all the ranch hands around
Keep on saying they wanna fight
And I learned to two-step so I can spin her
Off her pretty little country feet
If she wants a cowboy then I'll be as cowboy
As a cowboy can be

Find me a horse that I can cover
Find me some stars to sleep under
Find me a train, I'll hop out west
If she wants a cowboy, I'll cowboy the best

She wanted a cowboy so I went off
And rode me a horse about every day
Got pretty good at ranching and riding
But she didn't care anyway
Champion buckles, and champion spurs
I got everything but her
Now I'm a cowboy and she wants Nashville
What the hell was all this worth

Find me a horse that I can cover
Find me some stars to sleep under
Find me a train, I'll hop out west
If she wants Nashville, I'll Nashville the best

One more
Man, I never heard a song this good

So find me a horse that I can cover
Find me some stars to sleep under
Find me a train, I'll hop out west
If she wants a cowboy, I'll cowboy the best

Jet trails cut across a Winthrop County sky
That's why I reckon Sunday is a good day to die
There's a beautiful black Gelding, and he's waiting there for me
Pissed off and raising neck hairs out in chute number three

Last night they were pulling pints of pesky Pendleton
Snuck away from the fire, slept there with the grass and wind
I looked up at heaven, saw how small I really was
I wanna build a house and burn it down just because

And you're smirking like an asshole
With a cheek full of tobacco
In the back of some Bronco
In a town you've never been

Nothing fun happens after you turn twenty-five
If I make it out at all, I pray you're right here by my side
And if I'm going down, then I'm going down true
If I got anyone to thank then it'll always be you

What the hell am I doing?
Who the hell am I?
How I miss the scripture
Oh, Sunday's the day to die

And granddad sure was punchy
But loved Jesus to his core
I wanna die today, so I can learn to live for more

Nothing fun happens after you turn twenty-five
If I make it out at all, I pray you're right here by my side

And if I'm going down then I'm going down true
If I got anyone to thank then it'll only be you
If I got anyone to thank then it'll always be you

Jet trails cut across a Winthrop County sky
That's why I reckon Sunday is a good day to die

Well I heard you died out in Cheyenne
With my mother's ring on your hand
A note in your pocket
Said "I'll love you till I die"
I can hear the bulls are coming
To claim what they've been hunting
The son of a cowboy
Came to claim his daddy's right

And my baby, she's been crying
At the thought of me dying
She knows there's no stopping
A man and his foolish pride

So open the gates
I'm here to prove
I'm better than my father was
And where he came from too
Open the gates
I'm here to ride
To Hell I Go
With daddy by my side

And I ain't never feared nothing
That was four-legged and bucking
Throw me on a hurricane
And I'll ride it to the coast
You'll never know that your son
Came to do what you should've done

On a summer day a long time ago
Top a bull named To Hell I Go

So open the gates
I'm here to prove
I'm better than my father was
And where he came from too
Open the gates
I'm here to ride
To Hell I Go
With daddy by my side

Well I died out in Cheyenne
With my baby there crying
And a belly that's been growing
By the day
And I know that my son
Will do what his father should've done
A long, long time ago
On a bull named "To Hell I Go"

So open the gates
He's here to prove
He's better than his father was
And where he came from too
Open the gates
He's here to ride
To Hell I Go's calf
With daddy by his side

When I grab me by the hand, you hesitate
With the subtle inclination to tell a man straight
Your sister was a savior and your mother is a saint
Sometimes a woman is the sum of all the things her father ain't

But men are just the sum of all the things their mothers did

They'll spend their lives searching for the love they had as kids
My vices ain't a place to replace a loving home
You can't expect a harvest where the field's half-grown

You can't choose your blood
But you can choose to change the chains
That chain you down when you was just a child
And forgiveness ain't an easy road to go
But I know that it's a road worth heading down

When I see myself, I see your eyes
Reflections nowadays are a calm surprise
The older I get, the more I become
All the things I swore I'd always run from
But I'll raise myself a family and right the wrong
Of some imperfect people who were only half grown

'Cause you can't choose your blood
But you can choose to change the chains
That chain you down when you was just a child
And forgiveness ain't an easy road to go
But I know that it's a road worth going down

When I grab you by the hand, you hesitate
With the subtle inclination to tell a man straight
Your sister was a savior and your mother is a saint
Sometimes a woman is the sum of all the things her father ain't

Lonely, lonely troubadour, I know that you've been here before
But there ain't no cure for a restless man
If you came to run from your bad reputation
Of sleeping wherever you land
What state you in tonight, and did you get into a fight?
Are you more drunk than you were last week?
When I call you on the phone, you are never alone
And your jaws don't close when you speak

She said, "Run down the road, go where you need to go
But I need you to understand
There ain't no home and there is no cure
For a no-good rambling man"

Lonely, lonely troubadour, you ain't the boy you were before
This world has truly thickened your skin
'Cause everyone you talk to acts like they walked through
Hell with you way back when
Who are you to say I can't live this way?
I was born to be a man of the night
Twelve-foot tall and I'm living proof
That highway boys don't die

She said, "Run down the road, go where you need to go
But I need you to understand
There ain't no home and there is no cure
For a no-good rambling man"

She said, "Run down the road, go where you need to go
But I need you to understand
There ain't no home and there is no cure
For a no-good rambling man"

Take my soul, take my heart
Tear me apart
If I'm good for anything
It's all of this suffering
So use me for parts

To you I'm just salvage
I ain't ran right in years
So drive me then gut me
Deceive and fuck me
Then disappear

Take all my jokes
And tell them to them
And act like you're someone
That could be someone
Worth loving

And steal all the good parts
You found in me
Yeah, you'll sell 'em quick
Yeah, you'll sell 'em cheap
Hey, you'll give 'em for free

But I cleaned all my pistons
I'm running on 91
And I'm piecing myself
Back off the shelf
One by one

And now I've got a driver
Who chooses the high road
They don't use me for scraps
Or throw my ass back
When I hit potholes

And I'm flying down freeways
Going 117
And a '68 Fastback
Looks like a hatchback
Racing me

Ah, I believe
You cannot tear down
What's built up strong now
Thankfully

Oh, I believe
That you cannot tear down
What's built up strong now
Thankfully

And I'm flying down freeways
Going 117
And a '68 Fastback
Looks like a hatchback

Next to me

Break me down and beat me blue
There ain't a beauty on the planet coming close to you
In the harsh heat of summer or a cool crisp fall
I'd rather be ruined by you than be loved at all

Well my chest-talking, jaywalking, Levi jean queen
I've been everywhere, I swear, and you're the finest I've seen

Break me down and beat me blue
There ain't a kindness on the planet that compares to you
In the dark of the night or the light of day
I'll long for you tomorrow as I did today

Well, my daydreaming, people-pleasing, bright-on-dark-days girl
I fell hard and I've loved wide, and you're the rarest in the world

Well, I've been known to chase extremes
But in my dreams it seems I'm only chasing you
And break me, beat me, tear me down
And drag my ass all over town
I'll whisper you these sonnets till I'm blue
Oh, I'll whisper you these sonnets till I'm blue

Break me down and beat me blue
There ain't a heaven on the planet that saves me like you
Hallelujahs, oh, 'til you go on for miles
A grown-ass man grinning like a child

High on the mountain or the valley low
Only thing that heals my blues no matter where I go

You in the morning time
Reminds me of the summertime
And any time that ain't right now
Seems to be a waste of time
The way the grass fills hills of the holler
And the sun gives in to the crescent moon
Well I'm giving in tomorrow
Making love in the afternoon

'Cause when you go down hard
You come up swinging
I fucking hate love
But I love you in the evenings
I swore you'd be here
When I finally woke
I love you in the evenings
But I fucking hate high hopes

You in the morning time
Reminds me of a simpler time
Cutting grass for cash and gasoline
To prove I'm worth your touch and time
The way a woman's hands are warfare
To a wise man's worn-out ways
The way I figured I was worthless
When I lost a love that should've stayed

Cause when you go down hard
You come up swinging
I fucking hate love
But I love you in the evenings
I swore you'd be here
When I finally woke
I love you in the evenings
But I fucking hate high hopes

You in the morning time
Reminds me that each day is mine

To be grateful for the rising sun
Sneaking through the window blinds
The way you tell me it's alright
The past has passed
And right now's arrived

You in the morning time
Makes me glad I'm still alive

There's this flash I get often, a fever dream or a vision of sorts
Most times late at night
And I haven't found out why, but I know exactly why
I'm on this road, and I hear gravel underneath me, and I feel it too
And I don't know where I am, but I know exactly where I am
It's dark, it's really dark
And the car is warm, but somehow I can feel how cold the night is
I don't know where the road leads, but I know exactly where it ends
You see, I keep driving, and all I see for the longest while is my headlights
For an eternity, it seems
And everything is desolate and empty and nothing and hopeless
I'm lost, but I know where I'm going, I'm safe, I'm warm, I'm driving
And I see this small light
A dim one, growing brighter and bigger and closer and stronger
And the closer I get, the more I see
I make out a house with light strewn across it, a porch, some cars
Some frosted windshields that hadn't been touched for hours
I hear a song, and it's faint, I can't make out the name, but I know every word
I feel my feet first, and it's cold and they're crunching, and it's the sound of driveways
And the wind takes my breath with it
And then I walk up to this door and I knock, even though I feel I don't have to
And I don't know where I am, but I know exactly where I am
And this crack of light widens on this porch underneath me as this door opens
And this brown-haired girl with the brightest smile
I don't know who she is, but I know her so well
And behind her, the warmest home I'd ever seen
It's orange and comfortable, there's fire and it's bulb-lit

She says, "Where have you been?
We've been waiting on you all night, we've missed you"
She says through the kindest smirk I'd seen in so long
Then she tapers off the sentence with the—
With the peaceful sound that a lady makes
She grabs me on my forearms, pulls softly into the dining room
There's people and they're happy and they're content for one
I don't know who they are, but I know exactly who they are
And we're all standing and I'm laughing at a joke I'll never hear again
I don't know where I am but I know exactly where I am
And then she tucks her head between my collar as a friend
Between my collar and my jaw, and there's no weight at all
And I don't know where I am, but there's no weight at all
It's laughter and grins and no tomorrow to win
And I don't know where I am, but I know exactly where I am
I don't know where I am, but I know exactly where I am

This labor I've been doing ain't got no reason or rhyme
And I can't hardly wait for it to finally be quittin' time
And I've been pushing steel through a run down rust belt plant
And I can't wait to head on home, so I can take my gal to dance
How I'll take my gal to dance
Oh, I'll take my gal to dance

The desert sure is hot and we've been working through the days
I pray I get back to my loving lady's gaze
Rifle in my hand and some brothers to my side
I can't hardly wait for it to finally be quittin' time
Oh, I pray it'll be quittin' time
Oh, one day it'll be quittin' time

Quittin' time's on my mind
But her kind eyes are on my heart
I've been sweating for my wages
But she'll cool me after dark
How she'll cool me after dark
I know she'll cool me after dark

And I've been roofing houses atop of homes I can't afford

But I'm saving all my pennies and I'm praying to the lord
One day we'll make it through all this barely gettin' by
I'm taking out my woman and we're dancing barefoot tonight

Quittin' time's on my mind
But her kind eyes are on my heart
I've been sweating for my wages
But she'll cool me after dark
How she'll cool me after dark
Oh, she'll cool me after dark

It's a motorcycle drive by
Baby, dry your kind eyes
I think it's about time we headed home
Walking on such tight rope, with my damn high hopes
Country boys don't die alone

Reading poetry under shade trees
That woman, she's my baby
I will be in Richmond by tonight
With so much shame inside me
I just want to hide me
But they want to hear me sing my songs under lights

It's a motorcycle drive by
Baby, dry your kind eyes
I think it's about time we headed home
Walking on such tight rope, with my damn high hopes
The country boys don't die alone

Everyday's so fleeting and I have been trying to save it while I can
The look on her face, all these hot humid days
And the boys in my damn band

It's a motorcycle drive by
Baby, dry your kind eyes
I think it's about time we headed home

Walking on such tight rope, with my damn high hopes
Country boys don't die alone

Reading poetry under shade trees
That woman, she's my baby
I will be in Richmond by tonight
With so much shame inside me
I just want to hide me
They want to hear me sing my songs under lights

The sun set so late tonight
I wonder if you saw it too
I wish I still had someone to lose
But all I got are these summertime blues

Bet there's a green-eyed-dark-haired beauty
On some beach by Monterey
Letting waves wash her pain away
That I'll never know

Bet there's some boys out in Okie
That are praying to get the job done
Hauling hay and fighting off the sun
With ladies waitin' in town

Summertime blues, summertime blues
I got nothing left to prove
I'm out of touch and out of tune
Singing alone
To the birds up high
And the souls below
All those boys who ain't got no home
The beautiful girls I'll never hold
This one's for you

My summertime blues
My summertime blues

The quiet turns to revelry
As the sun burns away the spring
The coastlines start to sing
With the young and heartless

Hilton head and the hamptons
Where the rich all go to die
And the young kids all get high
Just to pass time

I bought a bottle of the best bourbon
A beat down boy could buy
I'm gonna' bury all my sorrow
As the summertime passes by

Summertime blues, summertime blues
I got nothing left to prove
I'm out of touch and out of tune
Singing alone
To the birds up high
And the souls below
All those boys who ain't got no home
The beautiful girls I'll never hold
This one's for you

My summertime blues
My summertime blues

The sun set so late tonight
I wonder if you saw it too
I wish I still had someone to lose
But all I got are these summertime blues

Go on and put on that dress that all the bad boys like
I know your daddy ain't home, so ride with me tonight
You always wind up here, in a puddle of tears

Them boys are out and they're angry and they're lookin' for blood
In the back of a blue old pick up truck
You've got nowhere to go, although you're all gussied up

There's so much whiskey in his Coke it'll make her nose bend
But she swears that his love is a damn God-send
She ain't known God since she was a child

She used to play in the yard and she would dream of one day
Until the world came around and took her dreaming away
Told her how to dress and act and smile

She's an Oklahoma smokeshow
He's an asshole from back home
She'll never make it out alive
Of that small town bar scene
Where small vices kill your big dreams
He'd take you home but he's too drunk to drive

I've been here, I've been up all night
Thinkin' 'bout a life with you and I
One you'll never know
'Cause you're a small town smokeshow

Well, I've been here, I've been up all night
Thinkin' 'bout a life with you and I
One you'll never know
'Cause you're a small town smokeshow

Go on and put on that dress that all the bad boys like
I know your daddy ain't home, so ride with me tonight
You always wind up here, in a puddle of tears

Them boys are out and they're angry and they're looking for blood
In the back of a blue old pick up truck
You've got nowhere to go, although you're all gussied up

There ain't much a war when it's 4:34
With the man you were before that bar door
No one loves you enough to give you a ride
And your car's sittin' right outside
Oh, Jamie

Keep your tires between the ditches
And your eyes peeled on the road
There's two more minutes before you're back home
Don't 103 feel so free? You always loved the revelry
Oh, Jamie

The flashing red and blue in a cracked rear view
He remembers the smile he once owned
But he ain't gonna stop for any cop
From here to damn near Wichita county

Well, I'll go tonight, boys
I don't mean no harm
I just miss my lovin' lady
And layin' in her arms

I'll go tonight, boys
I don't mean no harm
I just miss my lovin' lady
And layin' in her arms

'Cause there's a tombstone hidden in a place that he don't visit
Where the love of his life was laid to rest
He'll make it there by dusk
That is where they'll draw their guns
Oh, Jamie

'Cause this life ain't worth living
If the love that you've been given
Is taken before you are
Now Jamie is dancin'
And spinnin' around his baby in the stars

I'll go tonight, boys
I don't mean no harm
I just miss my lovin' lady
And layin' in her arms

I'll go tonight, boys
I don't mean no harm
I just miss my lovin' lady
And layin' in her arms

When it's late and it's cold on that old hidden road
You can hear laughter all in the trees
Don't 103 feel so free? You don't miss the revelry
Do ya, Jamie?

Queen-size mattress on an old oak floor
And I don't see the need in closing the screen door
I wanna hear the birds when the day finally comes
How I fear all my days of being young are done
Or only just begun

How close can a man come to God before dyin'?
'Bout as close as you were, when you were tryin'
To shade the sun from your eyes on the creek's edge, darling
There's a bar around the bend a man is bending blues guitar in

But when the day is done
And those neon lights call you home
You'll be beggin' of your savior
To let you savor
The savage times of Twenty-So
When the night is through
And those American girls are headed home
You'll be beggin' of your savior
To let you save her
From the sweet nights of Twenty-So

And I know how hard it is to love a boy like me
With my dry sense of humor and my reckless tendencies
But not all labor is done with hardened hands
You've been chompin' at the bit just to love an honest man

So when the day is done
And those neon lights call you home
You'll be beggin' of your savior
To let you savor
The savage times of Twenty-So
When the night is through
And those American girls are headed home
You'll be beggin' of your savior
To let you save her
From the sweet nights of Twenty-So

So when the day is done
And those neon lights call you home
You'll be beggin' for your savior
To let you savor
The savage times of Twenty-So
When the night is through
And those American girls are headed home
You'll be beggin' of your savior
To let you save her
From the sweet nights of Twenty-So

Well, the buildin's out in Brooklyn are taller than the clouds
And I don't like who I am Sunday mornin', comin' down
Tequila out in Texas is tougher on the tongue
Than the devil that I met in Oklahoma when I's young

I miss that old ball cap you stole from me
Out in the woods around a fire in Eastern Tennessee
And the beatin' that I got from them boys in Baton Rouge
Was nothin' like the beatin' that I got from loving you

Take me back to us then
Where the time's told true

And the sun does shine on a lawn chair holding you
Take me back to us then
Where there's a warm, warm light
Radiatin' off a cheap smile
Oh, ma, I could die tonight

And that creek we jumped in while you were shakin' cold
I never thought such heat would grow dry and old
Takes blood and guts just to get to where we were
Put on your dancin' shoes, I'll be him and you be her

Take me back to us then
Where the time's told true
And the sun does shine on a lawn chair holding you
Take me back to us then
Where there's a warm, warm light
Radiatin' off a cheap smile
Oh, ma, I could die tonight

Take me back to us then
There's a warm, warm light
Radiatin' off a cheap smile
Oh, ma, I could die tonight

Matt and Audie were a few fine folk
Made love in the morning with a few high hopes
They'd leave a note and they'd kick up dirt
In a town only good for part-time work

They bought an Astro van and a loaded revolver
To head to Montana where the weather's colder
They might steer South where the river's red
Only thing they need now is each other or dead

Matt went to work nearly every day
And in one month's time, they'll be on their way
Audie prepared the van, you see

For a getaway bound to robbery

So, won't you load up this bag because my sweet Audie is tired?
I promised her a life
I swear to God, I'll fire
'Cause her stomach, it's keeps turnin'
My hands are calloused rock
I'd rather die a desperate man than a man that got caught

He made it out alive and looked her in the eyes
Told his lover, "No more scrapin' by"
"We're gonna be richer than the big machine"
"I'll buy you diamonds bigger than the stars at sea"

So, won't you load up this bag because my sweet Audie is tired?
I promised her a life
I swear to God, I'll fire
'Cause her stomach, it keeps growlin'
My hands are calloused rock
I'd rather die a desperate man than a man that got caught

Matt and Audie were a few fine folk
Made love in the mornin's with a few high hopes
They stand so brave in a house out East
And tonight, Audie's cookin' herself a feast

Why can't you love me like I need you to?
It's such a simple task at hand
But you can't cure a broken man or mend his gun-hot hands
And I am still the same kid you fell for when we were young
How come every song I sing you say has already been sung?
And I feel like a nuisance in my own damn mind
When I speak, you say it's too much
When I scream, you say I've lost my mind

So, don't call in the morning, 'cause I'll already be gone

Oklahoma in the summertime's where my country ass belongs
Love is patient, love is kind
Should not make you lose your mind
There's got to be more to this than bein' pissed off
All the time
All the time

Why can't I love you like you need me to?
It seems we juxtapose
I'll just head out on the town
For déjà vu until they close

So, don't call in the morning, 'cause I'll already be gone
Oklahoma in the summertime's where my country ass belongs
Love is patient, love is kind
Should not make you lose your mind
There's got to be more to this than bein' pissed off
All the time
All the time

So, don't call in the morning, 'cause I'll already be gone
Oklahoma in the summertime's where my country ass belongs
Love is patient, love is kind
Should not make you lose your mind
There's got to be more to this than bein' pissed off
All the time

Everyone seems a damn genius lately
Tik-Tok talking, late-night TV
And there's still so much that I have yet to know

We get dressed up just to go downtown
In some ego filled late night crowd
It seems that's where I feel the most alone

I'd like to get lost on some old back road
Find a shade tree and a honey hole
And talk to my grandpa again

I see God in everything, trees and pain and nights in spring
So why do I still long for a home

I'd like to lay in a field on a cozy blanket
And feel the fear of never waking
To know the true warmth of the sun

I'd like to love my lady long and hard
And lay down lines of laymen guitar
And never leave loving arms again

My exes hate me and my friends all miss me
I wanna drown in rot gut whiskey
And leave this small town for awhile

Head to Paris on a late-night flight
Find a bar and get in a fight
Write a few poems on a sunny balcony

I want to be a child climbing trees somewhere
Breathing in the fresh, outside air
Before I knew this life was unkind

I want a well-trained dog on a couple acres
A kind, kind lady and a place to take her
And a few good friends I can count on one of my hands

I know I'm bound to die one day, so when I reach those golden gates, I pray to say I did the best
I can

Sit with my mother and the dearly departed
Send a prayer down to the broken-hearted
Let em' know it all turns out just fine

To know me is to love me and to hate me is to wrong me, I prefer my nights so lonely, I love
blues guitar and muscle cars and gin

I'm a simple man I don't need much just my simple songs and some human touch, I'm tired now
so I'm bringing my ass home

So let me go
Down the line
Let me feel it all
Joy, pain, and sky
Let me go
Down the line
We all burn, burn, burn
Then die

So let me go
Down the line
Let me feel it all
Joy, pain, and sky
Let me go
Down the line
We all burn, burn, burn
Then die

So let me go
Down the line
Let me feel it all
Joy, pain, and sky
Let me go
Down the line
We all burn, burn, burn
Then die

If I had the chance babe
To go back in time maybe id try a time or two
This life took you in babe
The same one that reminds me I could never love me like you do

The road is so hard dear
I bet there's some hometown bar that we could be
But I just had a dream dear

It's you in the late fall all warm swarmed by the middays light

And we're laying on the roof of my car
Feeling young feeling numb feeling starved
Of all the things that a moment might be
This ones best kept a memory
The purest parts of my heart are you and me

I love when your grin grows
The corners of your lips lifting lift me when I'm low
I read in the good book
The best things in life are free and need to be let go

So take one last good look
Let's share one last cigarette
I'll be gone by the time you're ashing it
Stop asking things you know the answers to
Theres no world in which I am good for you

And we're laying on the roof of my car
Feeling young feeling numb feeling starved
Of all the places a moment might be
This ones best kept a memory
How the kindest parts of my mind are you and me

I love when your grin grows
The corners of your lips lifting lift me when I'm low

Mama's gripping on her hip on the fifth of May
In a photo daddy took on a humid day
In a town that's anyone's guess
Way out in Western Kentucky

She's broken-hearted as he's riding away
On a motorbike out to East L.A
To find a white line, it's such a fine line, between broken and lucky

Getting high's easy
Getting drunk's fine
It's the getting by that'll get a soul down
So if you need me
Know that I'm bleeding
Somewhere alone in some coastal town
Some coastal town

And I can feel when your body ain't in this bed
I can still hear you laughing last spring in my head
Now it's April and I hate you and I'm heading home
The little notes that you left for me
In coat pocket and cabinetries
Are in a shoebox from when we once talked
Back when I felt free

Getting high's easy
Getting drunk's fine
It's the getting by that'll get a soul down
So if you need me
Know that I'm bleeding
Somewhere alone in some coastal town

Mama's gripping on her hip on the fifth of May
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Way out in Western Kentucky

Getting high's easy
Getting drunk's fine
It's the getting by that'll get a soul down
So if you need me
Know that I'm bleeding
Somewhere alone in some coastal town
In some coastal town

I had the greatest day of my life
The boys were shooting doubles under Western star-light
I rode a boat across the bay
Phoenix to Seattle to San Francisco
Hearing Debbie laugh under downtown bar-glow
Louie telling me he feels free from yesterday

Drank a cup of coffee couple hours south
Of the place I used to run around
When I was too young to really know
The difference in love and longing for it
When to shut up and when to stay with it
And how to forgive and just let go

'Cause this is, the greatest day of my life
If I move or close my eyes
It'll be gone and so will I
So come on in and stay awhile
Years are just moments in a great big pile
And she's there laughing on the porch swing of my mind
And I'm just grateful to be here at closing time

I had the greatest day of my life
Wrote up a single in a New York high rise
How the city makes a country boy dream
Played pool in Colorado after snow all night
It rained in Carolina but we played just fine
Charles is always better than last week
What did I do to deserve all this?
A roof over my head and a band that don't miss
A healthy dog that hugs me when I'm home
Nowadays I don't feel so alone
It can't get better
But what have I ever known?

'Cause this is, the greatest day of my life
If I move or close my eyes
It'll be gone and so will I
So come on in and stay awhile
Years are just moments in a great big pile

And she's there laughing on the porch swing of my mind
And I'm just grateful to be here at closing time

I had the greatest day of my life
The boys were shooting doubles under Western star-light
I rode a boat across the bay

Wake me up when the season's gone
'Cause I've wasted all my dawns on you
So what do I do?
Oh, what I do?

I get fucked up just 'cause I'm scared
Love's just another drug I have grown a victim to
So what do I do?
Oh, what do I do?

All is fair in love and war
So what the hell are we even fightin' for?
I'm on your front porch beggin' for my dawns back
Give my goddamn records and my clothes back
'Cause I'm through
Oh, how I'm through

And by the time she wakes
I'll be halfway to my mama's home
It just dawned on me
Life is as fleeting as the passin' dawn
And it was my mistake
'Cause she never said a thing about Jesus
I miss my mother's southern drawl
And her prayin' through the walls in the evening

Give me my dawns back
Everything that dies makes its way back

I lost her last July in a heart attack
I need one small victory (Mm)
Give me my dawns back
'Cause everything that dies makes its way on back
I lost her last July in a heart attack
I need one small victory

Ooh
Ooh

Wake me up when the season's gone
'Cause I've wasted all my dawns on you
So what do I do?
Oh, what I do?

And by the time he wakes
I'll be halfway to my best friend's home
It just dawned on me
Life is as fleetin' as the passin' dawn
And I shoulda told him twice
I believe in somethin' bigger than both of us
I miss goin' out to bars, shootin' stars
Not worryin' 'bout what's left of us, mm

Mm, give me my dawns back
Everything that dies makes its way on back
I lost her last July in a heart attack
I need one small victory (Mm)
Give me my dawns back
Everything that dies makes its way on back
I lost her last July in a heart attack
I need one small victory

Ooh (Mm)
Ooh (Ooh)

I got fucked up just 'cause I'm scared
Love's just another drug I have grown a victim to
What do I do?
Oh, what do I do?

I'd say I've seen some beautiful days, I've walked countless coastlines, awoken on mountain tops, I've seen death and birth and kissed good lips
I don't need a music machine telling me what a good story is, matter of fact, I've never asked nothing from nobody
I have taken my motorbike down the Pacific 101 and I have stood atop the Empire State Building with my father
I have ridden in fear, although, I was afraid every single time

I've learned that every waking moment is enough and excess never leads to better things, it only piles and piles on top of the things that are already abundantly in front of you like breathing and chasing and slow dancing and love making and fighting and laughing
I am unhinged, unworthy, and distasteful to mostly everyone I meet, however I am loyal to a fault to anyone I find kindness in
I do not and will not fear tomorrow because I feel as though today has been enough
And I got no hate in my heart for anything, anywhere, or anyone
And I think fear and Fridays got an awful lot in common, they are overdone and glorified and always leave you wanting

Yeah, I think fear and Fridays got an awful lot in common, they are overdone and glorified and they always leave you wanting

Hey there, darling, won't you love me down?
I'm 51 miles out in interstate town
I just decided I ain't keeping quiet, and I'm free

I lost my family to a bad disease
I got a mean, mean gene in my family tree
That grows in grandfather, and his daughters, and me, ya see

And I wanna stay humble, I wanna stay hungry

I wanna hear my father say that he loves me
I never gave a shit about being arrogant anyway

So hold on tight
'Cause I'll be working overtime
They told me that I couldn't, and I shouldn't even try
Ever since I was child, been working for a while, overtime

They said I's a wanna-be cowboy from a cut throat town
With tattooed skin and nobody around
Your songs sound the same, you'll never make a name for yourself

But I been scraping by my whole damn life
And granddaddy worked a double 'til the day he died
Said, "Never let this worlds earthly pride get you down."

No matter who you know, no matter what you do
I'll become what I deserve when it's all through
And you'll be there asking yourself why

So hold on tight
'Cause I'll be working overtime
They told me that I couldn't, and I shouldn't even try
Ever since I was child, been working for a while, overtime

Well, I've had cold and humid mornings on city streets and back porches
But I ain't never breathed a breath as fresh as you
And I've seen children playin' on the coastlines
Under the white lines, atop the blue tides
But I ain't ever been baptized in water as cool as you

And the law don't ever come back here and I
Reckon they don't try
I just put some beer on ice
Let's just dance for a moment or two

'Cause you're the fire of Carolina and Oklahoma too
The stars in St. Louis ain't burnin' bright as you
You're the waves crashin' down on the Eastern Coast
When the day's coolin' off and the summertime's closed
I lost faith in the world a long time ago

We'd always ride those back roads back when
You got sick
Roll the windows down
Just for the hell of it
You always acted baptized
Every time we hit the coast
Bandana tan line on your forehead
So the tourists didn't know

You're the fire of Carolina and Oklahoma too
And the stars in St. Louis ain't burnin' bright as you
You're the waves crashin' down on the Eastern Coast
When the day's coolin' off and the summertime's closed
I lost faith in the world a long time ago
My blood-rush to the heart, you were my last hope

And the law don't ever come back here and I
Reckon they don't try
I just put some beer on ice
And tonight I'm dancin' for two

Eighteen years old, full of hate
They shipped me off in a motorcade
They said, "Boy, you're gonna fight a war
You don't even know what you're fighting for."
I lost friends in the August heat
At night it was God I'd always meet
I said, "Lord, won't you bring me home
I've got women in the west I wanna hold."

And I lost you in a waiting room
After sleeping there for a week or two
Doctor said he did all he could
You were the last thing I had that was good
So I walked miles on the Tulsa streets
Light started beaming in from the east
6 AM and fucked up again
Asking God where the hell he'd been

He said the sun's gonna rise tomorrow
Somewhere on the east side of sorrow
You better pack your bags west
Stick out your chest
And then hit the road

The sun's gonna rise tomorrow
Somewhere on the east side of sorrow
Don't give it a reason to follow
Let it be, then let it go
Let it be, then let it go

Heard your brother lost his mind in the city last fall
Was it his blood, or his conscious, or the alcohol
Did the navy do him well or did he wind up sick
Like every other brave boy from these run down sticks?
Do you ever get tired of singing songs
Like all your pain is just another fucking sing along?
If you ever get the time come on home
I heard turnpikes back together and they're writing songs

He said the sun's gonna rise tomorrow
Somewhere on the east side of sorrow
You better pack your bags west
Stick out your chest
And then hit the road

The sun's gonna rise tomorrow
Somewhere on the east side of sorrow
Don't give it a reason to follow
Let it be, then let it go
Let it be, then let it go

So take me down the road that's a little bit windy
To a place they still put sugar in their iced tea
Where the women are fine and the love is fair
Hey, driver, you can drop me off anywhere

Hey, driver, pull on over I'm in a fight with God
This Carolina shoulder seems the place I'm getting off
Daddy always told me, never make a home on the road
While your lady's sneaking out and the kids are growing old

Hey, driver, I've been riding this lonely way too long
All the love I have worth giving is all spent on my songs
Hey, driver, the boys are gambling with more than just their cards
With their bottles, and their drugs, and their bibles, and their hearts

(Oh) So take me down the road that's a little bit windy
To a place they still put sugar in their iced tea
Where the women are fine and the love is fair
Hey, driver, you can drop me off anywhere
Hey, driver, you can drop me off anywhere

Hey, driver, I've been feeling like there's no point at all
The Klonopin ain't kicked in, and I missed my sister's call
Hey, driver, I'm so tired of the ways of this old world
Just drive until the tires melt, we'll come back when it's healed

So take me down the road that's a little bit windy
To a place they still put sugar in their iced tea
Where the women are fine and the love is fair
Hey, driver, you can drop me off anywhere

Hey, driver, you can drop me off anywhere
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Hey, driver, you can drop me off anywhere
Hey, driver, you can drop me off anywhere
Hey, driver, you can drop me off anywhere

Plucked strings on porches
A poor boy's choir
My blood's at a boil
There ain't no fire
I just love the way the light beams in
But I got bad news, I'm fearing Friday again

Choking on some bourbon when you roll up
Said, "Boy, you got a face it, you's ain't that tough"
Theres a house hoppin' on the edge of town
I'm revved up, thirsty, and ready to drown

I got a fear, dear, that it's gonna end
Won't you get angry at me?
Say you love me again
I got a fear, dear, that it's a Friday spark
You only love me like you mean it
When it's after dark
Woo

We can hide out tonight, out
Where the trees get clear
Those please-you-eyes
Are a man's worst fear
Theres a namesake on your heart's gravestone
Saturday's coming, I fear I'm waking alone

I got a fear, dear, that it's gonna end
Won't you get angry at me?
Say you love me again

I got a fear, dear, that it's a Friday spark
You only love me like you mean it
When it's after dark

I got a fear, dear, that it's gonna end
Won't you get angry at me?
Say you love me again
I got a fear, dear, that it's a Friday spark
You only love me like you mean it
When it's after dark

I'm cutting ties with things that bind my heart to this world
I love you and I'm willing but I cannot keep you, girl
Philly by the morning and Ohio by the night
The thing about a long rope is you can't hold on too tight

Wooden floors and coffee cups
Stepped on and all used up
But I reckon that's what morning are for
And everyone thinks they know me now
In these close-minded leave-me towns
But I'm too young to even know myself

There's wheels running down the interstate
Lord, I'll wait another day, 'cause I ain't close to you
There's time ticking on the interstate
And Lord, I hate that I ain't close to you

And all my friends have moved away
Some got jobs and some got saved
They talk to me like I am still that kid
The fighting, fiendin' Okie son
The restless, reckless, hopeful one
Who once was proud of everything he did

Do you remember twenty-five
Long legs and loving time?

Seems like ten lifetimes ago
I'm cutting ties with things that bind my heart to this world
I love you and I'm willing, but I really have to go

There's wheels running down the interstate
But, Lord, I'll wait another day, 'cause I ain't close to you
There's time ticking on the interstate
I'm fighting fate
And, Lord, I hate that I ain't close to you

I'm cutting ties with things that bind my heart to this world
I love you and I'm willing, but I cannot keep you, girl
Philly by the morning and Ohio by the night
The thing about high hopes is you can't hold on too tight

I ain't never been a holy roller
But I found God in your eyes

The greens and browns remind me
Of a mountainside
All the days that are to come
And all the bad things that I've done

I ain't never been a holy roller
But I found God in your eyes

We can stop for gas on our last trip out of town
All these songs about nothing
And straight-face bluffing's got me down
Cause old dogs bark way too loud
And talk shit on the weekend crowd

I ain't never been a holy roller
But I found God in your eyes

Coming down and coming up

There's a place for good love on the river's edge, darling
I know home's not far from here
From sundown to sun up
There's a place for good rest in the warm months, honey
I found God in your eyes, dear

You're grinning like a vandal
After swiggin' on a handle of Tito's
Lord, I didn't plan this
I'm just going as far as the wind blows
Coastlines to the flatlands
Get your rich hands out of our plans

I ain't never been a holy roller
But I found God in your eyes

Coming down and coming up
There's a place for good love on the river's edge, darling
I know home's not far from here
From sundown to sun up
There's a place for good love in the warm months, honey
And I found God in your eyes, dear

I ain't never been a holy roller
But I found God in your eyes

The greens and browns remind me
Of a mountainside
All the days that are to come
And all the bad shit that I've done

I ain't never been a holy roller
But I found God in your eyes

I finally quit smoking cigarettes
And I don't go downtown drinking 'til it's dawn

The best parts of you are here, but you're still gone
And, Lord, I've been trying to smile like you told me
Laugh like the old me, it comes out all wrong
The best parts of you are here, but you're still gone

And I still tie that double knot
The one you taught, that gets caught on the banks
The best parts of you are here, but you still ain't

I finally quit smoking cigarettes
And I don't go downtown drinking 'til it's dawn
The best parts of you are here but you're still gone

I heard your father got sick of Long Island
I've been trying like hell to call
My mind ain't well and I just can't tell you why
I heard they shut down the old bar we'd go to when we needed rest
We'd always stay out too late Tuesday nights
You said I was the perfect gentleman
You used to hold me by my gentle hands
These ain't the hopeful hands you held before
And I've been drinking so much lately, it seems a damn double blade
'Cause when I'm drunk I dream you're dancing down the shore

I heard your father got sick on Long Island
I've been trying like hell to call
My mind ain't well and I just can't tell you why
I heard they shut the old bar we'd go to, when we needed rest
We'd always stay out too late Tuesday nights

I heard your father got sick on Long Island
I've been trying like hell to call
My mind ain't well and I just can't tell you why
I heard they shut the old bar we'd go to, when we needed rest
We'd always stay out too late Tuesday nights

Did you ever make it back to El Dorado?
I'd call and ask, but hell if I know
If I still got your number or if you care
You moved away when you was younger
Was it escape, or was it hunger?
Kansas ain't no place to be a man
You used to say you'd settle down
With that kind girl from school in town
She was gone before you got back home

El Dorado, hell if I know
If you're still alive
There's a note in the glovebox of your drive
El Dorado hell if they know
The difference in a hero
And a man I wish was still by my side

Seventeen years-old, how our grins look scary brave
My momma always said we look so handsome when we shave
You used to say if not you then who
And you'd go a thousand times or two
Now your name's up on a sign in El Dorado driving through

In El Dorado, hell if I know
If you're still alive
There's a note in the glovebox of your drive
El Dorado, hell if they know
The difference in a hero
And a man I wish was still by my side
You're in every last memory alive

And I called last week to talk
To my favorite old devil dog
They told me he had finally headed home

Rotgut whiskey's gonna ease my mind
Beach towel rests on the dryin' line
Do I remind you of your daddy in his '88 Ford?
Labrador hangin' out the passenger door
The sand from your hair is blowin' in my eyes
Blame it on the beach, grown men don't cry
Do you remember that beat down basement couch?
I'd sing you my love songs and you'd tell me about
How your mama ran off and pawned her ring
I remember, I remember everything

A cold shoulder at closing time
You were begging me to stay 'til the sun rose
Strange words come on out
Of a grown man's mouth when his mind's broke
Pictures and passin' time
You only smile like that when you're drinking
I wish I didn't, but I do
Remember every moment on the nights with you

You're drinkin' everything to ease your mind
But when the hell are you gonna ease mine?
You're like concrete feet in the summer heat
That burns like hell when two souls meet
No, you'll never be the man that you always swore
But I'll remember you singin' in that '88 Ford

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You were begging me to stay 'til the sun rose
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Beach towel rests on the dryin' line
Do I remind you of your daddy in my '88 Ford?
Labrador hangin' out the passenger door

There's delays on the planes out of Eastern Montana
Where you told me you were leaving from
You've been stabbed in your back and the rest of your body
Won't you tell me where you're bleeding from

If you need a tourniquet or if you want to turn and quit
Know that I'll be by your side
You bled your whole soul into things you can't control
In a world you'll never satisfy

I bandage up your body and your bones and your bad days too
Take care of the blood that your love runs through
I know all the damage that some days in this dark world does
You were laughing last week at something I dreamed of

When you finally feel the blood you spill into everybody else
A tourniquet you tossed to the ground
Pull you in and hold you tight love you through the heart of night
Spring your kind ass into town
You've been playing your guitar from arenas to the bars
Since you were old enough to rhyme a word
But your face is getting thinner
And you're praying for the winter
And I heard you fucked it up with her

I bandage up your body and your bones and your bad days too
Take care of the blood that your love runs through
I know all the damage that some days in this dark world does
You were laughing last evening at something I dreamed of

I bandage up your body and your bones and your bad days too
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But you were laughing last evening at something I dreamed of

There's delays on the planes out of Eastern Montana
Where you told me you were leaving from
You've been stabbed in your back and the rest of your body
Won't you tell me where you're bleeding from

Turn on the TV, act like you don't see me
Tell me everything is okay
My mother is a saint and told me if I wait
Everything meant to be will stay
Well, I ain't a believer in people pleasing neither
Fucking telephones have ruined this place
Met a man in New York City, told me humans ain't as pretty
As a perfect day we'll chase for all the days

I ain't spotless, neither is you
For once in my life, I'm gonna see it through
If you want spotless, I'll always lose
I don't want love, lover, I want the truth

People die a thousand times to get to who they are
You were praying to the heavens on a late train car
Your heart knows deeper seasons than my eyes ever will
I'm a self-destructive landslide if you wanna be the hill

I ain't spotless, neither is you
For once in my life, I'm gonna see it through
If you wanna leave this, that's okay
Everything meant to be is bound to stay

Remember jumping in the pool when we was fully clothed in August
We were soaking, choking, smoking in my old shitty apartment

Then they cut off all the lights 'cause the bills were never paid
We were stealing all the power from the neighbors on vacation

I ain't spotless, neither is you
For once in my life, I'm gonna see it through
If you want spotless, I'll always lose
You gave me your love, lover, you gave me the truth

I was alone
You were bettin' on a loser, you were calling my bluff
Holding one another, is it never enough?
You were right there with me

I can't stop this, neither can you
For once in my life, I'm bound to see it through
If you want spotless, I'll always lose
You gave me your love, lover, you gave me the truth

No one on this side of town
Knows a good place for a boy to drown
They look at me so strange when I talk
I wish I was a tradesman
Learnin' from some beat down old layman
On some hillside they ain't named yet
Sleepin' next to mountain fire smoke

And everyone lately's scarin' me
It's all backdoor deals and therapy
The only callous I've grown is in my mind
I wish I was a tradesman
Playin' with some tuned up tired string band
Somewhere out by the badlands
Way past closin' time

So if you wanna trade, I'd say its a hard earned mile

Wanna sweat like hell, throw a hammer down
And know that the old feelin' of a five o'clock smile
And know I didn't take no easy way out

There's somethin' more that I need
Than accolades and sympathy
Fatiguin' in the summer heat
While they smoke big cigars
So give me somethin' I can't fake
That rich boys can't manipulate
Somethin' real that they can't take
'Cause, Lord, I'm not your star

So if you wanna trade, I'd say its a hard earned mile
Wanna sweat like hell, throw a hammer down
And know that the old feelin' of a five o'clock smile
And know I didn't take no easy way out

And everyone lately's scarin' me
It's all backdoor deals and therapy
The only callous that I've grown is in my mind

She's got a need to leave you wantin' more
She loves hard love and metaphors
Leave your shoes off at the door
'Cause dinner's waitin' on you

Grand things don't impress her much
She's keen to smaller acts
She likes honey in her coffee
And boys that use their backs

Friday afternoon at the Mercury Lounge
She loves a Prince song and a live sound

Never needs much and sure knows how to dance
All the money in the world couldn't make her smile
She prefers things that are worth while
Like small towns, that old style, and smaller acts

There ain't no love a man can find
You'd feel her in a room if you was blind
There ain't a grand thing a man can do
She'll only love you for you

She's satisfied in the scorching summer
Like the trees and stars she's laying under
They're fine being right where they are
Give her a buzz and a beat-down boy
She hates bullshit and loves the noise
Of a coastal town the early parts of fall

There ain't no love a boy can find
You'll feel her in a room if you was blind
There ain't a thing a man can do
She'll only love you for you

There ain't no love a man can find
You'll feel her in a room if you was blind
There ain't a thing a man can do
She'll only love you for you

When I get back to Oklahoma
I'll be a little better off than I am right now
And you talk so strong but you can't stand straight
How'd you fall for a man I've grown to hate?

I can drive you by where I learned to curse
He's got his creased dress whites in an all black hearse
Why's the green more green in the east of Eden?

Swing on by 'cause I know you ain't eaten

Did the city beat your ass like the trash you are?
There's still smoke smell in your old fast car

You can't hide where you're from
With nightcrawler blood on your casting thumb
You can fight and fiend and sell your guns
But you'll always be the Oklahoman son
You'll always be the Oklahoman son

When I get back to Oklahoma
I'll be a little better off than I am right now
I can't buy her a house like I swore I would
When I was naïve and eager child
And money can't buy an old friend of mine
And money can't buy me back no time

You can't hide where you're from
With nightcrawler blood on your casting thumb
You can fight and fiend and sell your guns
But you'll always be the Oklahoman son
You'll always been the Oklahoman son

You can't hide where you're from
With nightcrawler blood on your casting thumb
You can fight and fiend and sell your guns
But you'll always be the Oklahoman son
You'll always be the Oklahoman son

I don't wanna bet, but my father wrote a check that I bet his ass could never cash
He's bettin' on the eight ball landing in the side wall, cold-blooded killer if you ask
But every night, he needs me to land himself a red three-corner pocket at 12 A.M
Only twelve years-old, but I got a hold of a pool stick I was gifted from him

My father is a bettin' man

But I got myself a steady hand
He's sittin' in the corner with a six-pack of Corona
Bettin' that his son'll win again

Go bet another six-pack
Bet I make a comeback
Count on that this table's got a lean
Won't you take me fishing? And I want to try out for the seventh grade football team
You'll probably be nothin' but this town's old drunkard and die on a smoke-stained stool
But right now, he's got a bargain that he's taken too far on his boy's game of nine-ball pool

My father was a bettin' man
But I got myself a steady hand
He's sittin' in the corner with a six-pack of Corona
Bettin' that his son'll win again
My father was a bettin' man

My father was a bettin' man
But I got myself a steady hand
He's sittin' in the corner with a six pack of Corona
Bettin' that his son'll win again
I don't wanna bet, but my daddy wrote a check that I bet his ass could never cash
He's bettin' on the eight ball landing in the side wall
Cold-blooded killer if you ask

Road dogs are built for sleepin' in
I've been up since 4 am
At your worst, you're better than my better days
There ain't been no sun in LA
Since you moved out of Sarah's place

I love your mother's stories 'bout you as a kid
I heard you scored a job in the east village
While working for some folks who don't know your name
Well, ain't you gonna miss all of them wasted days?

We'd sit around, drinkin' out at Sarah's place

Don't come back lover, I'm proud you're under the skyline
We always knew you were the better half of our good times
Those backyard lights don't shine as bright without your face
Out at Sarah's Place

And you called to talk just last week
I'm still fallin' apart like I'll always be
And your picnic chair is still sittin' there in the yard
And I had to sell my old guitar

But don't come back lover, I'm proud you're under the skyline
We always knew you were the better half of our good times
Those backyard lights don't shine as bright without your face
Out at Sarah's Place

You'll always be a piece of mine, a piece of mine
We drove that road we know at least a million times
I'm so damn tired of seeing that empty drive
Out at Sarah's Place

Don't come back lover, I'm proud you're under the skyline
We always knew you were the better half of our good times
Those backyard lights don't shine as bright without your face
Out at Sarah's Place

Oh ah, hey
Mmm, mmm

Plane tickets have gotten awfully expensive
But I got mine for the price of a Gibson

High tide has been risin' up
I've been gettin' up with some boys I used to know

We're tryin' to get our pockets up
This year has just been movin' fuckin' slow

You were comin' out to Pineville, it was freezin' cold
I'm gettin' old by the day
You said I gave your heart somethin' to believe in
'Cause boys like us fade away

But you stuck around when I was down
And I'll owe you all my days
Them boys of faith
Them boys of faith

High tide has been risin' up
I've been gettin' up with some boys I used to know
We're tryin' to get our pockets up
This year has just been movin' fuckin' slow

You were takin' photos of me in Kentucky
Sayin' we were lucky for the light
Who would've thought those things would find a Billboard
Way out in New York at night

Thinkin' of the times that you didn't bat an eye
All those of times, I shake
Them boys of faith
Them boys of faith

High tide has been risin' up
I've been gettin' up with some boys I used to know
We're tryin' to get our pockets up
This year has just been movin' fuckin' slow

High tide has been risin' up
I've been gettin' up with some boys I used to know
We're tryin' to get our pockets up
This year has just been movin' fuckin' slow

Walking 'round town in a place I've never been
In deep, deep Manhattan
I recall it all, your dress and how it falls
You rollin' in deep satin

Won't you call a cab, mister, won't you pay my tab?
There's some kids on the curb haymakin'
And I ain't been home in three years or so
And everyone I know now's mistaken

Frauds as friends, starts as ends
Big lights is actual love
But you in Manhattan rolling in deep satin
Was a painful and wonderful drug

Well, I've been coming down on a Greyhound
That is westbound to the sea
When you see the lights when you hear the rain
There ain't a chance you're thinkin' of me
Is that song stuck in your head?
"Friend of the Devil," by the Dead
'Cause if that's the case, then that's just what I'll be

There's love when I'm leavin', there's light through the ceiling
I'll set out runnin' home
If I get around out in this place tonight
I'll gladly be takin' myself home
So won't you call a cab, mister, won't you pay my tab?
I heard life was a windin' road
There's no hounds or child around
But the devil follows where I go

Well, I've been coming down on a Greyhound
That is westbound to the sea
When you see the lights when you hear the rain
There ain't a chance you're thinkin' of me
Is that song stuck in your head?
"Friend of the Devil," by the Dead
'Cause if that's the case, then that's just what I'll be

Pain, sweet pain let's learn something from it
Oh see the top brother and I might just summit
Cause I've been climbing and climbing for so damn long
Thinkin' it's about time someone else is strong
Thinkin' it's about time someone else is strong
One-two, one-two-three-four

Humble yourself holy roller
If you don't you're gonna' come down hard
Make amends with the boy you were, but not the man you are
We heard hymns creeping through all the trees that we grew up in
We've lost so much faith through time, can't remember them
How looking at the stars in the valley tend to lend a man hope
Have you wishing all the highways from this point on lead home

But there is mighty fine inclines and a snakey stretch of road to scale
Just know wherever you go I'll be wishing you well
Just know wherever you go I'll be wishing you well

There's a mighty fine inclines and a snakey stretch of road to scale
Just know wherever you go I'll be wishing you well

You're so tired but the top is nigh
Keep on going you'll soon arrive
You're so tired but the top is nigh
Keep on going you'll soon arrive

Cause there's a mighty fine inclines and a snakey stretch of road to scale
Just know wherever you go I'll be wishing you well
Just know wherever you go I'll be wishing you well

Pain, sweet pain I have learned something from it
Oh see the top brother and I might just summit
Cause I've been climbing and climbing for so damn long
Thinkin' it's about time someone else is strong
Thinkin' it's about time someone else is strong

If I'm lucky enough, I'll see fogs lift with suns
As we roll to play a show in Carolina, Oklahoma, or Chicago
I'll grow to know the road to home in places far away
Wrinkled, bald, and beat to shit, to never waste a day
Enough people will hate me that I know I did it right
But to never meet a human being that I say that I don't like
Let me learn the hard way and cut it close sometimes
That youth is the attic chest where every lesson lies
I'll have some kids and teach them that we are all the same
Sufferin', smilin', silhouettes of every passin' day

The love I have will always be something my friends yearn
My memories were never cheap and never easy earned
I hope to choke on Jack and Coke in a bar during northern winter
On a night the band was tight, and right as rooftop lights flicker
If I'm lucky enough, I'll understand losing someone close
I'll clench my teeth on New Year's Eve and try to talk to ghosts
I'll stumble through a market on a Sunday in June
Smell the salt and asphalt on a Sunday afternoon
I reckon I'd be lucky if I made it half as far
To only die on hills that are closest to my heart
If I'm lucky enough, notebooks will be strewn across my room
I'll play catch on green grass where springtime flowers bloom

If I'm lucky enough, I'll tell the truth every chance I get
'Cause smiles faked to appease another is worth ten regrets
If I'm lucky enough, I will get through hard things
And they will make me gentle to the ways of the world
If I'm lucky enough, I'll have the courage to leave and go
Wherever my beatin' heart tells me to go
If I'm lucky enough, I'll get high and invite a guitar player over
And he'll play sweet notes until a New York City rooftop sun rises
I'll meet some kids at school that still know how to play instruments

If I'm lucky enough, I will make it exactly to where I'm taking this breath now
Lay my head upon the earth and laugh at passing clouds
If I'm lucky enough, I'll remember the shaky things we've seen
Grab your beer through tears and fears, The Great American Bar Scene

Took a few years to get here, brother
Greens are greener in the heat of summer
Calmness on this evenin' seems a drug
Graham and Lucas are having kids while
Steve's busy raising his
While I climb out a hole I never dug
Likely there's a spot, twenty minutes or so
We used to get wasted, ridin' rodeo
Now it's all mechanical bull

Are the old ways dead or livin' in my head?
There's a smile on a photo, catchin' dust in your old apartment
Are the old ways dead, livin' in my head?
It's all veneer and up from here, so take a rest

So I'll set off runnin' like I said I's gonna
And find another rodeo
I'm a mechanical bull
Throw a quarter and watch me go
And I get a little sad in the evenings
Knowin' I'll never get a beatin'
Like being young and dumb again in this life's long rodeo
Maybe I'll move to Texas, let my soul grow bored and restless
And learn to rope and ride like Le Gros
Maybe I'll learn the mando' and to pick a banjo too
Ride all night on the highways like Two-Show

Are the old ways dead, livin' in my head?
There's a smile on a photo, catchin' dust in your old apartment

Are the old ways dead or livin' in my head?
It's all veneer and up from here, so take a rest

It's all veneer and up from here, so take a rest
It's all veneer and up from here, so take a rest
Took a few years to get here, brother
Greens are greener in the heat of summer
Calmness on this evenin' seems a drug

I lost my money to some dirty old bookie
Way up in Philly, he was a bad man
But you can't bet your life on the table
When you've got yourself a bad hand
So I went and got my good friend, Mickey
And we made ourselves a bold stand
Wound up bleedin' on the bar floor
And we don't bet on ball no more
Where the bets are tough and bartenders mean
The Great American Bar Scene

My brother from Tulsa has got himself a warrant
But he's on the run up in Cheyenne
They hemmed me up and asked me some questions
But I ain't no damn rat, man
Put cuffs on so tight, he started bleedin'
From his wrist down through to his right hand
Put "State Trooper" on the record machine
The Great American Bar Scene

Neon lightin' and wooden floors lightly
As her feet quietly slide across
Tough boys have all came and went
She's a heaven-sent, and I'm at a loss
So if you've got the time, I've got the quarter
And a two-steppin' song called, "Hey, Porter!"

Why's love always feel like a fever dream
In The Great American Bar Scene?

My heart stays hurtin', and hands stay workin'
And I'm still just a sinnin' man
I've tried like hell to keep my health
Treat others well and understand
While life's unfair, uncertain, and mean
In The Great American Bar Scene

You took a train to the south side of Boston
You showed me where your old man stayed
Took twenty-eight years of blood I was lost in
To feel loved on my own birthday
And I always felt like I's in between something
Like home and somewhere far away
But tonight, on the west side in a bar out in Brooklyn
I saw tears outline your face

How lucky are we? It's been a hell of a week
But you're all grown now
There's smoke seepin' out of your bloody teeth
But you're home somehow

And I'll be upstairs with the guitar I's given
When I was barely fourteen
When did McGlinchey's get so crowded
And why are the crowds so damn green?
I lost my mind on the streets of the city
And maybe I lost all hope, too
Took twenty-eight years of blood pumpin' through me
To get to this evening with you

How lucky are we? It's been a hell of a week
But we're all grown now
There's smoke seepin' out of the bar down the street

But we're home somehow

How lucky are we? It's been a hell of a week
And we're all grown now
There's smoke seepin' out of the bar down the street
But we're home somehow

You took a train to the south side of Boston
You showed me where your whole heart stayed
Took twenty-eight years of blood pumpin' through me
To feel loved on my own birthday

Screen door cracked
The ballgame on
Man on the porch singin' baritone
Tan line leads to that gentle place
Between her collarbone and her stone-cold face

Dock hand boys all say goodbye
To the women that they swear are gonna be their wives
They'll be gone by the wintertime
And they don't wanna bother with no friend of mine

Wet, hot, American nights
Shake your body dry under coastline light
Wet, hot, American nights
We snuck our Fords to the shore
And drank a bottle bone dry
We snuck our Fords to the shore
And drank a bottle bone dry

Davey got back from his first tour
He ain't the same boy that he was before
Twenty's too young to nearly die
American boys are a friend of mine

Delco Danny cut a deal with the dealer
That he met out at the Rivers Casino
He got caught countin' cards, and the spades broke his heart
Then them Point Breeze boys broke his nose
Heard Mary got that job that she wanted out of town
She was better than the sum of all of us anyhow
She still stops by whenever she can
She's tougher than my brother with a balled left-hand

Wet, hot, American nights
Shake your body off under coastline light
Wet, hot, American nights
We snuck our Fords to the shore
And drank a bottle bone dry
We snuck our Fords to the shore
And drank a bottle bone dry

Screen door cracked
The ballgame on
Man on the porch singin' baritone
Tan line leads to that gentle place
Between her collarbone and her stone-cold face

Rail-tie worker, I've been layin' ties on coal in the ground
But I'm leavin' this evenin' on the same tracks I laid down
There's some boys out in Jersey that are calling me out by name
I got a reason to believe I ain't glory bound anyway

And if you're reading this letter, tell my mother and my brother that I love 'em
He's got the better blood of my old man and our cousins
But he made a bad deal with some boys out on Oak Island
And if he don't pay, they say they're bound to find him

But if I find 'em on that island first

The worst is yet to come
'Cause no blood in the mud I raised in spends
Life on the run

And I went to Jay's Tavern and it happens that them boys were there
Recognized his backside from the color of our mother's hair
And my brother found another way to make himself a decent little livin'
He turned around and found himself a lickin' only blood could give him
And I told him I was there to keep him clear of that island
He said, "I love you, Mickey, but I found out that I'm them"
And I got bad blood with some blood out on Oak Island
And if he stays, I say I am bound to find him

But if I find 'em on that island first
The worst is yet to come
'Cause no blood in the mud we's raised in spends
Life on the run

I've got plates for purple gas
'Bout the only break I catch
But I am not the kind of man
To blame the dealer on a losing hand
Have a lone star in my eye
The darker the sky, the brighter it shines
Pumpjack checks and baler twine
A ton of grit or maybe it's spite

And if I weren't a flatland boy, I'd say I have a hill
A hill that I will die upon if the climb don't get me killed
If there were such heights around here for a guy to lay his pride
Maybe I'd rest before I died if I weren't a flatland boy
If I weren't a flatland boy

I hammer down, hair straight back
World blurs past, tell me how's it that

My horizon line's static
I guess at least it's a sure bet
Was taught to not throw the first fist
But if you take a hit, finish that son of a bitch
In a life having the upper hand's a myth
Your only fighting chance is too stubborn to quit

And if I weren't a flatland boy, I'd say I have a hill
A hill that I will die upon if the climb don't get me killed
If there were such heights around here for a guy to lay his pride
Maybe I'd rest before I died if I weren't a flatland boy
If I weren't a flatland boy

Retired rail ties, point-nine wire
Neighbor kid on the fencin' pliers
Fargo that turns over fine
At forty below if you cuss it right
A sly thumb of Rye sometimes
Keep a bottle hid with the Bio-Mycin
You can dull the edge, you can look ahead
But can't get there, it goes on forever
Oh, it just goes on forever
You keep your head down, it goes on forever

But I've got plates for purple gas
I've got plates for purple gas

Let me die out in the boons
It took me thirteen years to bloom
They broke up, but he's alright
We'll be in town till late tonight
I'm dyin' in the boons

And I hate a hungry crowd
Worst of 'em all, talk the loudest
I guess I'll die out here

With a hammer and a beer
Just dyin' in the boons

So leave me out of that talk downtown
I have found everything I'll ever need
Real deep
In the boons

I met a girl deep in the city
She said she don't mind sittin' with me
I let my troubles float away
I had myself a simple day
Just dyin' in the boons

And how I miss the quick-stop line
They say hello every time
No concern for politics
Come on home, I'll check for ticks
Love me gently in the boons

And why does everyone I know
Have somewhere else to go?
Won't you look up from your hands?
Let's be still while we still can
Stay a while, out in the boons

So leave me out of that talk downtown
I have found everything I'll ever need
Real deep
In the boons

Let me die out in the boons
It took me thirteen years to bloom
I'm beat up but I'm alright
I'll be in town till late tonight
Just dyin' in the boons

Well, I saw you in my dreams last night
You had a vandal grin framed by a suit and tie
You were sayin' you were out of here
With your breath framed by cocaine and beer

Who'da thought she would ruin you
And leave your whole damn family in shambles too?
I got a call from your mom, months back
Sayin', "I wish he didn't leave town like that
I wish he didn't go out like that"

But love's gonna bring you home
Even God didn't see it comin'
But no matter where you're at
We'll always find the way back
We'll always find the way back
We'll always find the way back

Tokin' poison to some killer song
Your old man's Trans-Am in Kodachrome
Bumper sticker to the back right
State Champs eighty-three through eighty-five

She's smokin' cigarettes in the kitchen
Tom and Jerry's on the front room television
She always sat under the oak tree
Sayin', "God, I miss the old me"
God, I miss the old me

But love's gonna bring you home
Even God didn't see it comin'
No matter where you're at
We'll always find the way back
We'll always find the way back
We'll always find the way back

Baseball in the fall with a worn glove
The leaves might change, but the roots stuck
Them shoes still hang on the top wire
I'd say, "I don't miss you, but I hate a liar"

Saw you in my dreams last night
You had a vandal grin framed by a suit and tie

Tokin' poison to some killer song
Your old man's Trans-Am in Kodachrome
Your old man's Trans-Am in Kodachrome
Your old man's Trans-Am in Kodachrome

Rain started fallin' on the roof that mornin'
It was early summertime
We fogged up the rear window of my '67, three-hundred, in-line
My lungs have been hurtin'
And it's likely my liver has taken a lickin', too
Them Beale Street boys are handy
With a clap on four and two

The thrill is gone, so slow and easy
Won't you love me tender?
The way you move's a drug
And I am on a lifelong bender
So rest them tired eyes
And let your dress fall to the ground
We're the only ones left
Who love Otis in this town

I need you like Memphis, the blues
I need you like Memphis, the blues

Cracked up skies, tried on a couple lives
To find the one that fit
Cold wind comin' and the heat quit runnin'
But you keep my candle lit
Pictures on the wall say it all
With the kinda conviction, make a river burn
You got a skeleton key on a chain around your neck
I got a chain around my heart

Church bells ringing in the air down the hill from the house where you were born
I said, "Baby, don't you think we ought to live a little bit

Before Gabriel blows his horn?"

I need you like Memphis, the blues
I need you like Memphis, the blues

I need you like Memphis, the blues
I need you like Memphis, the blues
I need you like Memphis, the blues
I need you like Memphis, the blues

When you wake in the mornin' and I'm not by your side, just know that I'm halfway to Dallas
I'm stoned out my mind, I'm half-buzzed 'bout full-time since you left me to die here last August
When you make it to Nashville, you can tell by one hat tilt that that shit just ain't my scene
I like out-of-tune guitars and taking jokes too far, and my bartenders extra damn mean

So roll where you're rollin'
I'll be prayin' you're fine
Wherever you're goin'
Just stay walkin' that line
'Cause they'll eat and they'll spit ya
But you ain't their fool
They don't know ya like ida
Back home on barstools

I'm out on the road, when I'm goin', I go, I make music with all of my friends
I miss your silhouette catchin' coastal sunsets and the sound of that rusty door hinge
But that day's bound to come when I finish this run, and I'm rollin' right into your arms
And that bullshit you see on the late-night TV is a long way from our beatin' hearts

So roll where you're rollin'
I'll be prayin' you're fine
Wherever you're goin'
Stay walkin' that line
'Cause they'll eat and they'll spit ya
But you ain't their fool

They don't know ya like ida
Back home on barstools

So roll where you're rollin'
I'll be prayin' you're fine
Wherever you're goin'
Stay walkin' that line
'Cause they'll eat and they'll spit ya
But you ain't their fool
They don't know ya like ida
Belly-laughin' on stools

My old man bought a big bass boat
When I think of that summer of hope, I choke
'Cause even if we didn't catch a little bit of something
We'd park that boat by the bluff at the Days Inn

I got a need to find trouble when things are alright
I pine for pain in the morning light
And even with my baby sitting next to me
I'm a self-sabotaging suicide machine

And you're going, going, going
Till the Lord calls you home in
Your work boots and your worn coveralls
And you'll show them, show them, show them
With your high collateral loan on
That home where your children play with dolls

'Cause I was raised by a woman who was hardly impressed
And I carry that shit real deep in my chest
'Cause I ain't ever been one for cheap excuses
And apologies have always been a little late or useless

But if you give me four minutes and a little bit of time
I'll make them old days an old friend of mine

And I can talk to God, and I can pray all day
But you can't heal something that you never raised

And you're going, going, going
On Thanksgiving Day, when
You're sneaking off to drink some alcohol
And you'll show them, show them, show them
While you're kissing all the knees of
Every scrape and every bloody fall

My old man bought a big bass boat
When I think of that summer of hope, I choke
'Cause even if we didn't catch a little bit of something
We'd park that boat by the bluff at the Days Inn

Well, don't get angry
Listen to the sounds
Them good times will find their way back around
And I've got the answers
Go on and touch my skin
Them better days always come back again

This life's a boat, boy
It all comes in waves
On the radio, her laughter, and sweet mistakes
And I wasn't loved well as a younger child
So I pray these better, unstable days, they stay awhile

So don't get hateful
Lord, hot-damn
There's a fire burnin' in the back forty
I'm still finding out who the hell I am
And I'm so tired of wasting it away
Gonna find the time to realize

I'm in deep on better days

She always told me
There'd be times like this
With a blue guitar, a city bar
And a streetlight kiss
But I've never known quite
What I deserve
You try so hard and wind up gettin' burned

So don't get hateful
Lord, hot-damn
There's a fire burnin' in the back forty
I'm still finding out who the hell I am
And I'm so tired of wasting it away
Gonna find the time to realize
I'm in deep on better days

So don't get hateful
Lord, hot-damn
There's a fire burnin' in the back forty
And they're trying to change the man I am
And I'm so tired of wasting it away
Gonna find the time to realize
I'm in deep on better days

Gonna find the time to realize
I'm in deep on better days

Play me something gently, I'm across the ocean, missing home
There are lights on sparklin' towers that shine dark when seen alone

Somewhere there's a mountain that overlooks the sea
I wonder if that mountain's got more rock than my band and me
And I ain't no victim to a naive boy's dreams
But I wish you were here now to see these damned old sparklin' things

It's a long road to Heaven
It's a far drop to Hell
I pray we outlive this fountain
I reckon time will tell
The stronger folks keep goin'
No matter where they've been
And there are lights on sparklin' towers
That I'll never see again

And I am not the person that I was yesterday
And the things I'm seeing now will never be the same
Do you think God's a person? Or the blinking lights
That reflect in her eyes while she walks these streets at night?
Do you think God's a person?
Or is He just the sound of laughter through the walls in a place I haven't found?

It's a long road to Heaven
It's a far drop to Hell
I pray we outlive this fountain
Reckon only time can tell
The stronger folks keep goin'
No matter where they've been
There are lights on sparklin' towers
That I'll never see again

Do you think God's a person? Or is He just the sound
Of early mornin' creakin' on some floors way out of town?
I'm breathing in a life and my legs are wokin' fine
Do you think God's a person or the slowly-passing time?

Shape you take when you lay like that
Reminds me of a love I've never had
If loving's wrong, what's a boy to do?
I ain't scared of death, I'm scared of losing you

You ain't outta my league, you're outta this planet
But, dammit, if you ain't drilled into my skull

Take a trip uptown to clear you out of my mind
You're like sandpaper
The more I try, you bind

Winter was a drag, but spring was a friend
I'll love you till the summer comes back again
And they've been trying to smooth me out
For twenty-seven seasons now
For twenty-seven seasons

When I close my eyes, I think of times
I could smell and hear that northern thunder
Every pine has its time
To outgrow the rains of days of younger
I'll be still at the cuttin' mill
Just make me a roof you can hide under

Take a trip uptown to clear you out of my mind
You're like sandpaper
The more I try, you bind

Winter was a drag, but spring was a friend
I'll love you till the summer comes back again
And they've been trying to smooth me out
For twenty-seven seasons now
For twenty-seven seasons

We'll take a trip uptown to clear you out of my mind
You're like sandpaper
The more I try, you bind

Winter was a drag, but spring was a friend
I'll love you till the summer comes back again
And they've been trying to smooth me out
For twenty-seven seasons now
For twenty-seven seasons now

For twenty-seven seasons now

Lovesick, homesick, sick of the road, too
There's a reason all them boys back when sang the blues
And please don't ask me how these last years went
Mama, I made a million dollars on accident

Well, I was supposed to die a military man
Chest out too far with a drink in my hand
But I've got folks who like hearing me rhyme
I think of thunder under metal roofs all the time

Why's everyone acting like they ain't human?
Take me back to green grass and knowin' what I's doin'
'Cause I just need a friend right now
Sittin' close until the daylight's out
It ain't been my week, it ain't been my year
And I hate to admit I just need you here

So close your eyes
Do you think of when you's younger?
Won't you rest your mind?
Smell that northern thunder
So close your eyes
I pray you see those memories
The way this life blackens all the things you used to be

So close your eyes
Do you think of when you's younger?
Rest your mind
And smell that northern thunder
Won't you close your eyes?
Think of what this used to be
The way this life blackens all your younger memories

Lovesick, homesick, sick of the road too
There's a reason all them boys back when sang the blues

You know that time goes
Right out the window
And our hearts
They beat on borrowed time

Pack the car while the creek's runnin'
Cast a line with the dawn comin'
You know I wanna believe in somethin'
Somethin' like you
Reckon God is a funny man
For puttin' beauty in these ugly hands
And I don't quite understand
The joke quite yet

And it was cold, but I was warmer than I'd ever been
I'll get old, but I wish I was younger then
I reckon God's gotta be a funny man, I do
'Cause I got you

One piece in hot beach sand
Make it through to the weekend
The shape you take when you sleep in
Reckon God is a funny man
For puttin' beauty in these ugly hands

And it was cold, but I was warmer than I've ever been
I get old, but I wish I was younger then
I reckon God's gotta be a funny man, I do
'Cause I got you

You know the time goes
Right out the window
And our hearts
They beat on borrowed time

So pack the car while the creek's runnin'
Cast a line with the dawn comin'
You know I wanna believe in somethin'

Somethin' like you

The kids are in town for a funeral
So pack the car and dry your eyes
I know they got plenty of young blood left in 'em
And plenty nights under pink skies
You taught 'em to enjoy

So clean the house
Clear the drawers
Mop the floors
Stand tall
Like no one's ever been here
Before or at all
And don't you mention all the inches
That are scraped on the doorframe
We all know you tiptoed up to 4'1 back in '08

If you could see 'em now
You'd be proud
But you'd think they's yuppies
Your funeral was beautiful
I bet God heard you coming

The kids are in town for a funeral
And the grass all smells the same as the day you broke your arm swinging
On that kid out on the river
You bailed him out
Never said a thing about Jesus or the way he's living

If you could see 'em now
You'd be proud
But you'd think they's yuppies
Your funeral was beautiful
I bet God heard you coming

If you could see 'em now

You'd be proud
But you'd think they's yuppies
Your funeral was beautiful
I bet God heard you coming

The kids are in town for a funeral
So pack the car and dry your eyes
I know they got plenty young blood left in 'em
And plenty nights under pink skies
You taught 'em to enjoy

Recall your hats, erase the claim like who gets to ride shotgun
Your pocket knife, it went missin', I think we know who got that one
You used to let her cut the ribbons on all of her own presents
It made me nervous, but now I see we're just taught different lessons

Coffee cold this morning
You're getting rid of me
Got drunk, fell asleep, and woke up in Eastern Tennessee
Woke up on the wrong side of a
Lifelong fight between
Who I was, who I am, and which one's right

Baby's out with the bathwater
He ain't got no chance
Oklahoma knows the old ya
So boy, get up and dance
These songs used to free me
Now there's nothing free in this
Just 808 beats, what we used to be, and back-door politics

Now everyone knows an outlaw
Country to their core
But the only outlaw I've known
Served in the Corps
And I ain't heard "Shake the Frost" in a

Couple years or more