

WHEN THE DEAL GOES DOWN

In the still of the night, in the world's ancient light
Where wisdom grows up in strife
My bewildering brain, toils in vain
Through the darkness on the pathways of life
Each invisible prayer is like a cloud in the air
Tomorrow keeps turning around
We live and we die, we know not why
But I'll be with you when the deal goes down

We eat and we drink, we feel and we think
Far down the street we stray
I laugh and I cry and I'm haunted by
Things I never meant nor wished to say
The midnight rain follows the train
We all wear the same thorny crown
Soul to soul, our shadows roll
And I'll be with you when the deal goes down

The moon gives light and shines by night
I scarcely feel the glow
We learn to live and then we forgive
O'er the road we're bound to go
More frailer than the flowers, these precious hours
That keep us so tightly bound
You come to my eyes like a vision from the skies
And I'll be with you when the deal goes down

I picked up a rose and it poked through my clothes
I followed the winding stream
I heard the deafening noise, I felt transient joys
I know they're not what they seem
In this earthly domain, full of disappointment and pain
You'll never see me frown
I owe my heart to you, and that's sayin' it true
And I'll be with you when the deal goes down

CUANDO SE CIERRE EL TRATO

En el silencio de la noche, en la antigua luz del mundo
Donde el saber crece en combate
Mi cerebro turbador se esfuerza en vano
Por las oscuras sendas de la vida
Cada plegaria invisible es una nube en el aire
El mañana no deja de desviarse
Vivimos, morimos e ignoramos por qué
Pero estaré contigo cuando se cierre el trato

Comemos y bebemos, sentimos y pensamos
Vamos sin rumbo calle abajo
Río y lloro, me obsesionan cosas
Que nunca pensé o quise decir
La lluvia de medianoche va a la zaga del tren
Todos llevamos la misma corona de espinas
Alma con alma ruedan nuestras sombras
Y estaré contigo cuando se cierre el trato

La luz que da la luna brilla en la noche
Apenas noto el resplandor
Aprendemos a vivir y luego perdonamos
Estamos obligados a recorrer el camino
Más delicadas que flores son las preciadas horas
Que estrechamente nos unen
Viniste a mis ojos como una visión celeste
Y estaré contigo cuando se cierre el trato

Tomé una rosa y se hincó en mi ropa
Seguí la corriente sinuosa
Oí el estruendo, sentí alegrías fugaces
Sé que no son lo que parecen
En este reino terrestre preñado de dolor y decepción
Jamás me verás ceñudo
Te debo mi corazón, ésa es la pura verdad
Y estaré contigo cuando se cierre el trato

SOMEDAY BABY

I don't care what you do, I don't care what you say
 I don't care where you go or how long you stay
 Someday baby, you ain't gonna worry po' me anymore

Well you take my money and you turn me out
 You fill me up with nothin' but self doubt
 Someday baby, you ain't gonna worry po' me anymore

When I was young, driving was my crave
 You drive me so hard, almost to the grave
 Someday baby, you ain't gonna worry po' me anymore

Something is the matter, my mind tied up in knots
 I keep recycling the same old thoughts
 Someday baby, you ain't gonna worry po' me anymore

So many good things in life I overlooked
 I don't know what to do now, you got me so hooked
 Someday baby, you ain't gonna worry po' me anymore

Gonna get myself together, I'm gonna wring your neck
 When all else fails I'll make it a matter of self-respect
 Someday baby, you ain't gonna worry po' me anymore

You can take your clothes, put 'm in a sack
 You goin' down the road, baby and you can't come back
 Someday baby, you ain't gonna worry po' me anymore

I try to be friendly, I try to be kind
 Now I'm gonna drive you from your home, just like I was driven from mine
 Someday baby, you ain't gonna worry po' me anymore

WORKINGMAN'S BLUES #2

There's an evening's haze settling over the town
 Starlight by the edge of the creek
 The buying power of the proletariat's gone down
 Money's getting shallow and weak

IF YOU EVER GO TO HOUSTON

(WITH ROBERT HUNTER)

If you ever go to Houston
Better walk right
Keep your hands in your pockets
And your gun-belt tight
You'll be asking for trouble
If you're lookin' for a fight
If you ever go to Houston
Boy, you better walk right

If you're ever down there
On Bagby and Lamar
You better watch out for
The man with the shining star
Better know where you're going
Or stay where you are
If you're ever down there
On Bagby and Lamar

I know these streets
I've been here before
I nearly got killed here
During the Mexican war
Something always
Keeps me coming back for more
I know these streets
I've been here before

If you ever go to Dallas
Say hello to Mary Anne
Say I'm still pullin' on the trigger
Hangin' on the best that I can
If you see her sister Lucy
Say I'm sorry I'm not there
Tell her other sister Betsy
To pray the sinner's prayer

I got a restless fever
Burnin' in my brain

SI ALGUNA VEZ VAS A HOUSTON

(CON ROBERT HUNTER)

Si alguna vez vas a Houston
Más vale que andes derecho
Las manos en los bolsillos
Y la cartuchera apretada
Mejor que tengas cuidado
Si quieres buscar pelea
Si alguna vez vas a Houston
Chico, más vale que andes derecho

Si alguna vez estás
En la esquina de Bagby y Lamar
Más vale que vigiles
Al hombre de la estrella brillante
Ten muy claro adónde vas
O quédate bien quieto
Si alguna vez estás
En la esquina de Bagby y Lamar

Conozco esas calles
He estado allí antes
Casi me matan allí
Cuando la Guerra de México
Hay algo que siempre
Me devuelve a ese lugar
Conozco esas calles
He estado allí antes

Si alguna vez vas a Dallas
Saluda a Mary Anne y dile
Que sigo apretando el gatillo
Que aún aguanto como puedo
Si ves a su hermana Lucy
Dile que lamento no haber ido
Dile a Betsy, la otra hermana
Que rece la plegaria del pecador

Hay una fiebre inquieta
Ardiendo en mi cerebro

Got to keep ridin' forward
Can't spoil the game
The same way I leave here
Will be the way that I came
Got a restless fever
Burnin' in my brain

If you ever go to Austin
Fort Worth or San Antone
Find the bar rooms I got lost in
And send my memories home
Put my tears in a bottle
Screw the top on tight
If you ever go to Houston
You better walk right

FORGETFUL HEART
(WITH ROBERT HUNTER)

Forgetful heart
Lost your power of recall
Every little detail
You don't remember at all
The times we knew
Who would remember better than you

Forgetful heart
We laughed and had a good time, you and I
It's been so long
Now you're content to let the days go by
When you were there
You were the answer to my prayer

Forgetful heart
We loved with all the love that life can give
What can I say
Without you it's so hard to live
Can't take much more
Why can't we love like we did before

PAY IN BLOOD

Well I'm grinding my life away, steady and sure
 Nothing more wretched than what I must endure
 I'm drenched in the light that shines from the sun
 I could stone you to death for the wrongs that you done

Sooner or later you'll make a mistake
 I'll put you in a chain that you never can break
 Legs and arms and body and bone
 I pay in blood, but not my own

Night after night, day after day
 They strip your useless hopes away
 The more I take, the more I give
 The more I die, the more I live

I got something in my pocket make your eyeballs swim
 I got dogs that could tear you limb to limb
 I'm circling around in the southern zone
 I pay in blood, but not my own

Another politician pumping out his piss
 Another ragged beggar blowin' ya a kiss
 Life is short and it don't last long
 They'll hang you in the morning and sing ya a song

Someone must have slipped a drug in your wine
 You gulped it down and you lost your mind
 My head so hard, it must be made of stone
 I pay in blood, but not my own

How I made it back home nobody knows
 Or how I survived so many blows
 I been through hell, what good did it do?
 My conscience is clear, what about you?

I'll give you justice, I'll fatten your purse
 Show me your moral virtues first
 Hear me holler, hear me moan
 I pay in blood but not my own

PAGO EN SANGRE

Estoy triturando mi vida sin descanso
No podría sufrir desdicha más miserable
Me empapa la luz que el sol arroja
Podría lapidarte por el daño que has hecho

Tarde o temprano cometerás un error
Te pondré un grillete que nunca romperás
Piernas y brazos, carne y hueso
Yo pago en sangre, pero no es la mía

Noche tras noche, día tras día
Te despojan de esperanzas inútiles
Cuanto más tomo, más doy
Cuanto más muero, más vivo

Tus ojos nadarán con algo que tengo en el bolsillo
Tengo perros que desgarrarán tus miembros
Doy vueltas por la región del sur
Yo pago en sangre, pero no es la mía

Otro político expele su meada
Otro mendigo harapiento te lanza un beso
La vida es corta y no dura mucho
Te ahorcarán por la mañana y te cantarán una canción

Creo que alguien ha puesto droga en tu vino
Te lo bebiste de un trago y perdiste la cabeza
Mi cabeza es tan dura que parece de piedra
Yo pago en sangre, pero no es la mía

Nadie sabe cómo volví a casa
O cómo soporté tantos golpes
He vivido un infierno, ¿de qué ha servido?
Mi conciencia está limpia, ¿qué tal la tuya?

Te haré justicia, engordaré tu cartera
Pero antes enséñame tus virtudes morales
Óyeme aullar, óyeme gemir
Yo pago en sangre, pero no es la mía

You bit your lover in the bed
 Come here I'll break your lousy head
 Our nation must be saved and freed
 You been accused of murder, how do you plead?

This is how I spend my days
 I came to bury not to praise
 I'll drink my fill and sleep alone
 I pay in blood, but not my own

SCARLET TOWN

In Scarlet Town where I was born
 There's ivy leaf and silver thorn
 The streets have names you can't pronounce
 Gold is down to a quarter of an ounce

The music starts and the people sway
 Everybody says, are you going my way?
 Uncle Tom still working for Uncle Bill
 Scarlet Town is under the hill

Scarlet Town in the month of May
 Sweet William on his deathbed lay
 Mistress Mary by the side of the bed
 Kissing his face, heaping prayers on his head

So brave, so true, so gentle is he
 I'll weep for him as he'd weep for me
 Little Boy Blue come blow your horn
 In Scarlet Town where I was born

Scarlet Town in the hot noon hours
 There's palm leaf shadows and scattered flowers
 Beggars crouching at the gate
 Help comes but it comes too late

On marble slabs and in fields of stone
 You make your humble wishes known