

“quarry town”

we never heard the call  
or felt the pull of the open road  
we've got a brand new a&p  
and a big screen picture show  
we hardly want for nothin'  
cause our feet seldom leave the ground  
we never knew any better, in a quarry town

back in sixty-two  
'round the start of vietnam  
some of us quarry boys  
who were of fightn' age  
made a deal with uncle sam  
in the name of god and country  
we buried our friends in the ground  
we never knew any better, in a quarry town

chorus  
if who you are is a little of where you're from  
you're gonna find a whole lot of people 'round here  
mixed in with the limestone dust  
we hardly want for nothin' cause our feet seldom leave the ground  
we never knew any better, in a quarry town

i've cut the yellow stone  
for now on thirty years  
and i will till they lay me down  
cause nothin' changes much 'round here  
like those that came before us  
we take what is handed down  
we give it to our children, in a quarry town

chorus  
if who you are is a little of where you're from  
you're gonna find a whole lot of people 'round here  
mixed in with the limestone dust  
we hardly want for nothin' cause our feet seldom leave the ground  
we've never known any better, in a quarry town

our feet never leave the ground  
in a quarry town

“this time”

i'll keep my eye's on the road you keep tellin' me stories  
of how good it's gonna be when we get there  
a few more hours to drive and we'll find our own way to glory  
who can ever be sure what tomorrow brings  
but it's a brand new day

chorus  
and this time  
we're talking serious business  
this time  
we're playin by our own set of rules

dreams will all unfold for you and i  
this time

we've got nothing to fear the future is ours for the taking  
those who stood here before they'll understand  
well you've got to swing for the fences  
when life gives you choices you make 'em  
and you don't look back in regret on what might have been  
cause that's a losing game

chorus  
and this time  
we're leavin' the past behind us  
this time  
we're playing by our own set of rules  
dreams will all unfold for you and i  
this time

just up ahead the earth's gonna shake  
and the heavens will thunder  
cause we'll hit town on a high and a roll  
cause strength lies in numbers  
and baby we've got the numbers...yeah

chorus  
this time  
we're talking serious business  
this time  
we're playing by our own set of rules  
the world will bend or break for you and i  
this time  
yeah, this time

"the likes of us"

got the pavement pumping the heat off the street  
through the souls of both of my shoes  
tread's wearing thin but knows where i've been and all i stand to lose  
i've been buying time by the interstate on this roadway dock loading freight  
some nights when the trucks run late i step out back and stare  
off into that open sky and i dream about slipping away  
hey baby that's me and you takin' a chance or two  
going straight to the highway

just lie and listen to that engine burnin'  
turnin' those four wheels just as fast as they can go  
and roll down the window and you might just feel the morning  
blowing in from someplace that the likes of us will never know

'bout a mile down at the amoco  
amy's 'hind the counter sellin' her soul  
to a nine to five job she don't wanna to know or care too much about  
she's just tryin' to make herself an easy buck  
she can roll into this old pick-up truck  
gonna drive her into town and with a little luck we'll turn a head or two  
no the ride won't last too long but man, she won't care  
she just wants to feel the wind whipping through her long blond hair  
going straight to the highway

just lie and listen to that engine burnin'  
turnin' those four wheels just as fast as they can go  
and roll down the window and you just might feel the morning  
blowing in from someplace that the likes of us will never know

this town's gonna get us down if it gets up under our skin  
yeah baby we were born to lose but we're bound to win  
going straight to the highway

just lie and listen to that engine burnin'  
turnin' those four wheels just as fast as they can go  
and roll down the window and you might feel the morning  
blowing in from someplace that the likes of us will never know

oh yeah, the likes of us

"lucky man"

me and annie got married when we were just kids  
on a couple hundred dollars and two promises  
she was three months showing in a cap and gown  
we knew nothing 'bout the world outside of this town  
she had an uncle in deerborn heights  
helped me get on at the mill workin' nights  
you know that third shift foundry, it's tough as they come  
but with a baby on the way something had to be done

wooo  
days they just go rushin' past  
when you're growing up fast  
wooo  
but i never let it get to me  
baby all i see... is a lucky man

now every morning with the sunrise that shift whistle blows  
and i 'm always getting anxious to get on down the road  
cause she's waitin' there for me just inside the door  
tell me how could anyman, anywhere, ever ask for anymore?

wooo  
days they just go rushin' past  
like they're never meant to last  
wooo  
but i never let it get to me  
baby all i see... is a lucky man

sometimes i wonder  
you know a man will wonder, yeah

wooo  
days they just go rushin' past  
like there never meant to last  
wooo  
but i never let it get to me  
cause all i'll ever be...is a lucky man

oh yeah, baby...i'm a lucky man, oh yeah

"another man's crime"

ardmore oklahoma summer ninety three  
some kid robbed the bank and trust and looked a lot like me  
i was just a two bit drifter, lookin' for a place to land  
when the d.a. and his grand jury agreed that i's their man  
my court appointed lawyer was tellin' me to plea  
he said "boy you keep your mouth shut, just leave the law to me"  
i had a prior in texas and i knew the deal was good as done  
so i jumped a guard in the county yard,i cut the fence and run

chorus

and i caught the first train leaving  
i've been running ever since  
it's nothing less than twenty years  
for this federal offense  
you can take me in a pine box  
cause i ain't doin' time...for another man's crime  
for another man's crime

today i'm goin' north bound, winter's turned to spring  
i don't know where i'm headed or what tomorrow brings  
maybe kansas city ,st. paul or council bluffs  
but i'll criss-cross these united states  
and leave ya chewin' on my dust

solo

chorus

i'll catch the first train leaving  
right before the dawn  
about the time you're wind of me  
hell, i'm a hundred miles a gone  
i know this aint no life i'm living  
but i aint doin' time...for another man's crime  
no i won't, for another man's crime  
oh yeah  
i won't do the time...for another man's crime

"leaving meridian"

goodbye meridian  
your damned oil fields and your cotton gins  
i ain't coming back again  
i've had enough of all your lost honky tonks  
and rough neck sin

this leaving road is a straight shot to mexico  
that's where i think i'll go  
cause just last night she told me no  
she don't love me no more  
so like a lonesome wind  
i'm leaving meridian

goodbye meridian  
your dime store profits and your livestock pens  
i sure won't be missing when your locomotive whistle blow  
and wake up the whole damn town at 5 am

this leaving road is a straight shot to mexico  
that's where i think i'll go  
cause just last night she told me no  
she don't love me no more  
so like a lonesome wind  
i'm leaving meridian

she had those clear blue eyes and that falling down hair  
and it sure does get mighty lonesome out there  
there ain't one good reason  
why i should stick around this old heartbroke town  
when you just can't win  
so i'm leaving meridian  
i ain't coming back again  
i'm leaving meridian

"go easy"

there's talk tonight on the avenue  
you may have found somebody new  
i've been holding on to hope i guess  
just tryin' to figure how it came to this  
we were tight we were tough  
but sometimes that's just not enough  
i'm not asking for your sympathy  
but if your going, baby please....

chorus  
won't you go easy  
whenever i see you again  
go easy baby... cause i've still got you under my skin  
won't you go easy

day by day it's all the same  
i go from out of the fire back into the flames  
hanging on when i know we're through  
believe me darling i'm beggin you

chorus  
won't you go easy  
whenever i see you again  
go easy baby... cause i've still got you under my skin  
won't you go easy

bridge  
i'm still not over you by a long shot  
is he really everything that i'm not  
whatever you do have some mercy on me

solo

chorus  
won't you go easy  
whenever i see you again

go easy baby... cause i've still got you under my skin  
won't you go easy

"my father's son"

old white washed barn door, rain rusted tin  
straw-packed shirt and blue jeans, hanging in the wind  
there's never time for these bones to mend  
up before the sun dries the frost on my fields  
i've got this diesel burning, turning these four wheels  
across this land i've been handed down  
feel my roots run deep in this ground

chorus:

so stand me up, tall in this seat  
and lord help me guide, this plow beneath my feet  
and turn this earth over one more time...  
some say this way of life is done  
not for my father's son

three generations before i ever came  
cut back these timbers and bet their lives on grain  
and i wanna see just once, before i die  
us doing more than just barely getting by...yea

chorus:

so stand me up, tall in this seat  
and lord help me guide, this plow beneath my feet  
and turn this earth over one more time  
some say this way of life is done  
but not for my father's son

solo

now and then i walk my fence down by old county road  
and i watch the cars go rushing by and disappear like ghosts  
out where the sky meets the amber waves  
well i'm a rock in this land god made

chorus:

so stand me up, tall in this seat  
and lord help me guide, this plow beneath my feet  
and turn this earth over one more time  
some say this way of life is done  
but not for my father's son  
no, not for my father's son  
oh yeah

"my america"

headed back again, wishing i'd remember when  
the sound of that tread wearing thin, ever felt as good

as it does tonight on this highway  
with my hands wrapped around this chevrolet  
it's just ten more miles till the light of day rises up across the land  
and reminds me of a time when this whole damn town was mine  
long before i set out to find a little piece of my america

my daddy weren't no business man  
tried the best he could with that bottom land  
but we were always living second hand  
and for me that wouldn't do  
soon as high school set me free, i turned my back on tennessee  
was gonna show 'em all who i could be, before i lost my nerve  
i lit out for tim-buck-two, leaving everything i knew  
just trying to make a dream come true, somewhere, in my america

(chorus)  
and i'll tell you what i learned out there on the road  
you were easier to find than i had ever thought  
for all my searching far and wide  
you were right here waiting, deep inside my heart  
i guess i was to blind to see, you were right in front of me  
my america

as i pulled up on that gravel drive  
and the back porch screen door opened wide  
my daddy smiled and my mama cried as i fell into open arms  
you know i never heard i told you so  
but if i had i'd a let 'em know  
to find my way i had to go where ever that road might lead  
but the easiest stretch i found was from the moment i turned around  
and started walking back down familiar ground  
home... to my america

(chorus)  
and i'll tell you what i learned out there on the road  
you were easier to find than i had ever thought  
for all my searching far and wide  
you were right here waiting, deep inside my heart  
i guess i was to blind to see, you were right in front of me  
my america

tag:  
my america

"your secret's safe with me"

i crawled out of bed this morning  
i brushed my teeth and i combed my hair  
looking in the mirror it occurred to me  
seldom is life ever really fair  
so i walked to the kitchen and poured my coffee  
all decked out in my sunday best  
i thumbed through the paper and kissed my baby  
then i drove uptown to pay my respects

chorus  
here's to you & little boy blue  
swimming with the fishes in the deep blue sea  
long as rock and roll ain't dead  
you can rest your weary head

your secret's safe with me

i heard about the junk that somebody sold you  
it must of burned like fire when it hit your veins  
but you gotta remember when you dance with the devil  
one way or another the band gets paid

chorus

here's to you & little boy blue  
swimming with the fishes in the deep blue sea  
long as rock and roll ain't dead  
you can rest your weary head, boy  
your secret's safe with me

solo

i know not to cry for an angel  
so for your soul i shall not weep  
i'll dream of you standin' at the ocean  
and pray that maybe you find some peace...ooo yeah

chorus

here's to you & little boy blue  
swimming with the fishes in the deep blue sea  
no, the king ain't really dead  
so you can rest your weary head, boy  
your secret's safe with me  
ooo yeah, your secret's safe with me