Dirty Old Town

David Byrne











Intro:

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[F]
    [Gm1
           [Dm]
                   [F]
                        [Gm]
                               [C]
(whistle)
                   [F] [Gm] [C]
[F] [Gm]
           [Dm]
           [Dm1
                   [F]
                        [Gm]
                               [C]
[F]
    [Gm]
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Verse 1:

Well, there are [F] sixteen people in [Gm] Danny's apartment

[F] Sixteen people are [Gm] living in there

[F] Remember the days of [Dm]rent control

[C] Grandpa remembers [Bb] rock and roll //// (hold)

Pre-Chorus:

These [F] days won't last [Gm] forever
These [F] days won't last for [Gm] long
You know, [F] somebody somewhere [Gm] owes us a favor
[F] That's how things really get [Gm] done
In this [C] World of Oppor-[Bb]-tunities,
it's a [C] Land of [Bb] Possibilities

Chorus:

[F] We wanna [Gm] live in a [C] dirty old [Bb] town [F] Building it [Gm] up, [C] tearing us [Bb] down With our [F] head in the [Gm] clouds and our [C] feet on the [Bb] ground [F] We wanna [Gm] live - - [Bb](hold) dirty old (whistle) [F] [Gm] [Dm] Dirty old [F] town [Gm] [C] [F] [Gm] [Dm] [C]

Verse 2:

Now when the [F] ladies come from [Gm] Kansas They [F] wear their traditional [Gm] colors [F] Today the fabrics are [Dm] ragged and torn The [C] clothes on their backs is [Bb]all that they own //// (hold)

They say, "[F] Don't draw attention [Gm] to yourself"
They'll [F] tear you apart for a [Gm] couple of bucks
[F] Keep you head down and [Dm] keep your nose clean
"Cause [C] people who're scared do [Bb]dangerous things"

Pre-Chorus:

These [F] days can't last [Gm] forever
These [F] days can't last for [Gm] long
You know, [F] someday things will get [Gm] better
[F] Somehow things will get [Gm] done
In this [C] World of Possi-[Bb]-bilities,
it's a [C] Land of Opport-[Bb]-unities

Chorus:

[F] We wanna [Gm] live in a [C] dirty old [Bb] town [F] Building it [Gm] up, [C] tearing us [Bb] down With our [F] head in the [Gm] clouds and our [C] feet on the [Bb] ground [F] We wanna [Gm] live - - [Bb](hold) dirty old (whistle) [F] [Gm] [Dm] Dirty old [F] town [Gm] [C] [F] [Gm] [Dm] [Dm] [F] [Gm] [C]

(2nd background melody)
[F] [Gm] [Dm] [F] [Gm] [C]
[F] [Gm] [Dm] [F] [Gm] [C]
[F] (hold)

More verses if you want:

Verse 3:

These days [F] ships are born only on [Gm]special occasions [F] Battles are fought for [Gm]family and nations [F] Maybe you'll pray but [Dm]god isn't home And there's [C] no guarantee that [Bb]justice be done

Chorus:

[F] We wanna [Gm] live in a [C] dirty old [Bb] town [F] Building it [Gm] up, [C] tearing us [Bb] down With our [F] head in the [Gm] clouds and our [C] feet on the [Bb] ground [F] We wanna [Gm] live - - [Bb](hold) Dirty old [F] town [Gm] [Dm] Dirty old [F] town [Gm] [C]

[F] [Gm] [Dm] [F] [Gm] [C] [F] [Gm] [Dm] [F] [Gm] [C] [F] [Gm] [Dm] [F] [Gm] [C]