

NY Doesn't Care

And I still question where you're sleeping
I still dream of where you are
Yeah I still write myself reminders
I still wake up to false alarms
And I still gaze out at that skyline
Against the green and silver stars
And I still listen for a steamship
Between the sounds of passing cars

And I assume by now you've changed somehow
And given up the chase
And I'll have wasted all those woodshed hours
Plotting my escape no

But she likes the winter
She says it's warmer in the snow
I could wait here forever
But God forbid she doesn't show
Don't I know
New York doesn't care if this is wrong or if it's right
New York doesn't care if I get home tonight

But I still lose myself in sound
And that's exactly why I need you
Yeah that's the reason I'm here now
So if you could just give me some direction
If you could point me the right way
I just might finally learn my lesson baby
No more blind mistakes

I can't be the only son
The chosen one
The taste of something new
But I still believe in second chances
Deep down I still think you do too

But she likes the winter
She says it's warmer in the snow
I could wait here forever
But God forbid she doesn't show
Don't I know
New York doesn't care if this is wrong you're goddamn right
New York doesn't care if I'm going down without a fight
New York doesn't care if I'm out of mind I'm out of sight
New York doesn't care if I get home tonight



Packed into the backseat of your car
You made your way across America
And all because I'm scared of love
And I don't share your sense of disregard
No I just see unfamiliar faces for their burdened heavy hearts
And though I must admit you've got me pegged
I figured I'd been left for dead
To face my wounded pride
I can't disclose it
My hands are tied behind my back

You don't need answers when the clues don't add up
And you're kicking yourself till you're sore
So I'm gonna be who you want me to be
Cause I'm just not myself anymore

Monika woke up round ten o'clock
She took the train downtown to meet me
Where the railroad meets the market square
And we left as all the bars were closing shop
To begin our slow ascent up from the bottom to the top
And as I tuned in for the coup de grâce
She filled my head with empty thoughts
I fell right off the deep end
Man what a long night
What a wasted weekend
When you try so hard just to make amends but still

You don't need answers when the clues don't add up
And you're kicking yourself till you're sore
So I'm gonna be who you want me to be
Cause I'm just not myself anymore

So when we've done everything that we can
I hope I gave you everything



It's been a well-spent Sunday evening
 Trying to get this off my chest
 And though I'm eastbound toward New England
 You're bound to follow me back west
 And it shakes my bones
 So it starts again
 They won't ever hurt you quite like I do my friend

You treat me like a disease
 Guess I should've found me a doctor
 That could've fixed my lungs
 I know I come on strong
 But you just don't listen
 I can't make you listen
 And I sure can't make you love me
 I'm what you use to pass the time

There are questions without answers
 There are bombs below these streets
 Just as my helicopter's landing
 The ground gives way from underneath and the hull explodes
 Ain't that the way it goes?
 You find yourself sifting through the wreckage alone

I'm trying hard to believe
 But every time I'm on approach I get sidetracked
 Or somehow just swept off course
 Met with no remorse
 So why won't you listen to me?
 Oh won't you listen baby please?
 I know the glory's fading to some degree
 But it all comes back around eventually
 You'll see

Suppose I never find the reasons why the seasons meet their ends
 And all these sons of unsung heroes
 See themselves as good as dead
 I will not let go
 God I may never know
 Oh but I will hold this pose forever
 Until I tire or decompose
 This is not your fight

Besides you treat me like a disease
 You treat me like a disease
 Swear I'll never fall so hard again
 May I never fall so hard again
 You might never fall



First Snow

They've got you working the night watch don't they?
You make your living on insider trading now
They found a new way to get inside your head
And they'll be calling the shots now won't they?
They ship you off on the Red Line's first ride out
But you'll be taking the 10:15 instead

Well I don't know you anymore
But you're not who you were before

I've seen you go too far

Fast forward now to the honors banquet
You are the only one even dancing
Though admittedly I've been watching from afar
Now I don't know what to do
You've got me cornered now with no way out
My God it's harder every day
(You think you're leaving but you're here to stay)

You set your briefcase on the floor
Man there are no secrets anymore

But I've seen you go too far
And when you sleep you glow in the dark
For what things took leave and broke your heart
You know they're just dreams just ghosts just stars
They will fade in time

This ain't working anymore
That's why no birds sing anymore

Oh no I won't leave won't go too far
From where you'll be where I'll know where you are
When you get too cold too sad too low
And I will be home for that first snow
And I will know you then

And I've seen you go too far



Get up
You wanna prove to yourself that you're made of more than dust?
You'd best get up
But you're confusing yourself if you think you work for us
Well you're not the one
But you could stand to prove your worth
No you're not the one
But you'd be standing if you were

And I hope you're happy now wherever you've wound up
And I hope you're happy with what you've become
Though it's too soon now to say
I bet it haunts you in that tomb you've made your home
Until finally you just cave in

Well this is mine
And I'm not giving it up for some knockoff arcade prize
Shit I'm scared to death
For the sake of all that's sacred in my eyes
But you're not the one
No you're not the one

Still I hope you're happy now wherever you've wound up
And I hope you're happy with what you've become
Cause you're too far gone to stay
In this abandoned house of cards you once called home
Where I'll be obsessing over this

Where I'll be obsessing over this and more
But you're so drunk now you may
Summon the will to make the call when you get home
And I'll be repentant for this mess I've made



Bright and early on the Fourth of July
You keep it steady on the 75
Like pyrotechnics I reflect in your eyes
And you're gonna lead the parade

Well right now they're planning my downfall vainly
You can relay the message but you can't save me
See I've already chosen my fate
I won't be easily swayed

But I needed somewhere to run to baby
Somewhere to run to baby
I turn on my cruise control

Not many people give you proper goodbyes
Most that do just end up changing their minds
But you will regret it for the rest of your life
If you say nothing at all

Show me the moves and I won't stop shaking
That's just one of a few different ways to break me
You know this is my coming of age
My thoughts are subject to change

God I needed somewhere to run to baby
Just give me somewhere to run to baby
Gonna turn on my cruise control (make it move)
And pray that the sunroof keeps me dry

When the motor dies we'll just start it up again

I think of the one I left behind
Just hoping to God she's changed her mind
And now you fill up the months with days gone by
Just wishing for once you'd stayed inside



One of Two Colors

It's not the clouds that loom outside
The hazy depths below
It's how you light my way each night
Like angels in the snow
And you're my imaginary friend
I take you where I go

Cause you're one of two colors
You're orange soft and low
Or you're yellow baby and no star outshines your glow

A flower lived in potting soil upon your windowsill
We kneel beside this plot of soil
And we plant its seedlings still
And now gazing over what's become our garden on a hill

It is one of two colors
It's green when it grows
And it's violet baby as the roses bloom in rows
And you dream in one of two colors
It's a blue open sky
Or it's a red hot fire out the back porch in July

And you wake up crying
You're lost in time
You place your fingers over mine
And you fear you're falling from inside
And every morning it's the same
I just shut my eyes and I pray for rain
If I didn't have you here this way

I would be none of two colors
Just blackness and white
Just the background shades of the best parts of my life
But you make it all of two colors
All silver and gold
And it's magic baby
It's like a bedtime story told



Big Sky Goodbye

You say you don't even know me
Well you're not the person who you say that you are
I've felt the ground falling out from below me lately
So if you've got something to show me
Let's make this quick cause I'm falling apart
Just keep it fast because I'm ready to go

Well I don't need this shit
Fuck you I'm going to Montana
Give my best to Mom
Tell Dad I send my love
Go on and throw a fit
You can slam the doors
I'll understand it
But I just dance beneath the big sky up above
Fuck you I'm going to Montana

You stand in motion babe
I run in place
You're not just anybody
But are you worth it?
Are you listening?



So I finally mustered the courage
To part ways with that sorry excuse
But when I voiced my concerns to the board of directors
Well the faults in my accent rang true
So I summoned the voices of reason
Which for all that I know pulled me through
And they said if you set yourself up for such failures again
I just pray you will know what to do

When I fell from the highest of flagpoles
Well they scattered my ashes on deck
When I practiced my speech on some sassafras tree
Woke up drunk in the alley round back
If I live my whole life for this moment
Never knowing what not to expect
Well then at least I'll look back knowing life wasn't wasted
All on Quaaludes and solicited sex



Short Sighted

I was told you were the manes of everything I loved
You keep me in the darkness baby one time was enough
I was told you were the fault lines
Was told you were the shoal
Still I keep you at a distance
Through these bouts of self-control
But I'd have love you either way

And I learned to call you by your first name
When you kept my calm in place
You walked me to the shoreline
We made that leap through time and space
And it's moving faster now than ever
And I don't need room to breathe
Just need you on my good side
In the event that we succeed
In setting ourselves up for life

So flee like a bird to your mountain
For look the wicked bend their bows
Go count your garden by its flowers
And not by the leaves that fall

You can forge these structures out of cold steel
You can carve them into stone
You can stare off in the distance
Find some dream to call your own
Oh and it feels just like the movies as it seeps into your soul
But when you look up from your casket
You see the ozone for its holes
And so maybe you're cursed... maybe not

Flee like a bird to your mountain
For look the wicked bend their bows
You go count your garden by its flowers
Not by the leaves that fall
And I could've made it happen if you'd kissed me
But you took a shot and missed me
What happened to you Christie and left you so shortsighted?
No the truth to your garden's in its flowers
Not in the leaves that fall down

You tried everything but you came up emptyhanded
Well honey I can't stand it
This is moving way too fast
And now you keep the things you keep and you keep it candid
And though it isn't like you planned it
This is moving way too fast



It's been six days since Christmas
And you're still some distance from here
What I once was convinced of
Well right now the difference is clear
And it don't feel like Christmas
When I can't pretend that you're near

That we'll ring in the New Year
And break out our finest champagne
Then we'll migrate like snowbirds
And move south to Florida till spring
Then we'll toast to the New Year
And look back on all that has been

And I miss you more each day
In my sleep I dream you take me with you
When you make your great escape
Took a nosedive into the lake
And suddenly awoke to find I'd drowned
And in an instant been replaced

Well these days I'm distracted
By things that I know just aren't there
And I'm stargazing nightly
I'm still building castles in air
Whatever keeps me distracted
From all of this crippling despair

Sometimes the bartender sits with me
When I'm in need of a friend
She looks like my sister
And talks like the world's going to end
Yeah the bartender gets me
It's her I just can't comprehend

And I miss you more each day
I know if I keep climbing up this mountain
I'll float upwards into space
Took a nosedive into the lake
And you might think I'm coming up for air
But I am gone without a trace
The end is drawing near
look at us we're changing
Just look at me I'm changing right before your very eyes
I know we can't stay here
I'm aware of all the dangers
We see ourselves as strangers right before we say goodbye
So goodbye



Crestfalling

Give it a rest why don't you?
They're gonna find a way to foil your plans
You're trying to harness the forces of things
That you can't understand
I was looking to buy you some time here
Shouting try to catch me if you think that you can
Just don't let them find what you leave buried under the sand

Ooh and if you make it to next year
When I'm paid I'm gonna buy you an island
Ahh and if a ship on the ocean washes up
You're gonna sail it away
Screaming don't you see what's there?
Pay attention
I say I don't think I care no

So the end of the world is upon you now
Are you facing up to all of your fears?
Just keep running along through the darkness
Till something enlightening appears
You try to imagine the bellboy
Mmm how he whispered and it sounded sincere
But he never remembers your name and that brings you to tears

Ooh so if it feels like you're dying
Hate to say it but you're probably dying
Ahh and if you're looking for heaven
You're gonna find it up north of the bridge
Keep climbing that endless flight of stairs to perfection
Screaming life just isn't fair no

So you put all the baggage behind you
When he packed it up and left for Japan
You would've met up in Osaka
Had things gone according to plan
With all the specifics escaping you now
All you're left with is the way it began
And what led you to make your escape in that fastback sedan

Ahh so if you need a vacation
You take it anywhere you like
It's a free world
But if you come home for Christmas
I'll save you any present under the tree
You might be all that still remains of the good girls
But you have just yourself to blame



It's dark out here tonight
The storm is coming soon
And distant satellites eclipse the moon
And we're scattered nationwide
Engaged in subterfuge
And you're stationed at my side
Subdued

See things have come to light
It's got us on the move
And they'll take up arms and fight
With so little left to lose
Me I keep the end in sight
That faceless rendezvous
That we will before we die
Salute

To another day wasted
Another year gone
To another night traded for another sad song
It's another age over in another time lost
And I'm another life older
I'm another sunk cost

Little Mexico's alright
Little Bangkok too
Little late to do what's right
To tell the truth
But the outcome's bleak this time
We've done all that we can do
And for what?
Just to watch it all divide in two

And soon it's another day wasted
It's another year gone
It's another night traded for another sad song
It's another age over in another time lost
And I'm another life older
I'm another sunk cost

(Cause we don't call no cards here
No we don't pretend no more)

We all wonder why



So the daydream slipped
My world goes spinning round again
I still ain't found too much to say
And growing up's a bitch
But if I'd known just how to say I'm sorry
Well I'd have told you every day

The changes bring me straight down to my knees sometimes
And I've been changing for a while
But let's face it I'm not ready to give it up just yet
Still living my life in denial



Sunday Morning

Sunday morning
Praise the dawning
It's just a restless feeling by my side
Early dawning
Sunday morning
It's all the wasted years so close behind

Watch out
The world's behind you
There's always someone around you who will call
It's nothing at all

Sunday morning
And I'm falling
I've got a feeling I don't want to know
Early dawning
Sunday morning
It's all the streets you've crossed not so long ago

Watch out
The world's behind you
There's always someone around you who will call
It's nothing at all

Caught down here beneath the moonlight
Just getting ready for the big time
Still feeling empty on the inside
Still buried underneath the landslide

Feels like I'm dying and it's alright
Feels like I'm drowning in the riptide
While you're up somewhere in a blue sky
Just making circles round the sun

Leaving me here beneath the moonlight
Swear all these colors paint me just right
But I can't make it up the incline
To keep me from going out of my mind

So goodnight everybody
Goodnight

