

Angeline

Take another left Angeline
Can't you see the light's turned green
And you are lost in the city

Keep going straight Angelane
This part of town looks all the same
And I hope that you find it pretty

Where you trying to go Angelo
Your heart goes fast but your car goes slow
And I hope the people have pity

Take out the map, Angeline
Won't you take out the map
Try and look back Angeline
No, it's hard to look back
Think of all the places you have been
Places we've been together
And say goodbye

Take a deep breath Angelie
Count to ten and say goodbye
Farewell to the concrete pastures

Turn up the heat Angeline
Your bones are cold and it's in your mind
To go a little faster

Pull to the side Angelou
You'd get home if you only knew
The name on the door that you're after

Learning to Let Go

I swear that I am dreaming
When I kiss your lips
Is it that we're in love
Or just little kids

I'm learning to let go
When will I know

I don't feel that lucky
Even with my girl
Even if she loves me
There's so much in this world

I'm learning to let go
When will I know

What you see in ink blots, painted
Smashed like Rorschachs, jaded
The collision of our lives was slow
I am learning to let go

Tell me that it's over
I won't feel that bad
Even if you cheated
I'll know that I've been had

Born at 5:00

Born at 5:00, bright blue eyes
Mother beamed, father cried
His first words came from a song mom sang
Big sis wished it'd been her first name

And he took his first steps learned to live upright
He sat through school but he ran through the night
And at 13 kissed a girl but she didn't kiss back

A name misspelled on the diploma
Paycheck, road trip, Arizona
His first love wore her hair full of curls
They called it quits but he found another girl

And everyone stared as she walked down the aisle
Kids got daddy's eyes and they stole momma's smile
And for a while there everything was goddamn peachy keen

Until he cheated death at 35
Asleep at the wheel swerved just in time
His heart grew cold and he lost touch
The job was boring and the marriage was tough

Then he saw a drop of blood roll down his son's face
He was standing in a robe he was teaching him to shave
And he snapped out of it and he learned how to love again

But a stroke got dad and they buried mom
Once the cancer grew too strong
A lullaby from sister's lungs
First tear in dad's eye since the birth of his son

So he took the year off to get back on his feet
He didn't do much, took a trip to the beach
Where he slept on the sand, had a dream where the girl kissed back

Highway home, daily grind
Birthdays, holidays, peace of mind
He lost his hair, found his laugh
Composed a will and his epitaph:

“There was nothing too special about the way he lived life
Was about average build, was about average height
Sometimes he did things wrong other times he did right”

A porch out front and a yard out back
The quiet life in the cul-de-sac
Kids in school gowns and ties
More little babies with bright blue eyes

So he cashed in his chips and he moved to the hills
But he didn't eat right and he didn't take his pills
And then at five o'clock one day those soft blue eyes grew still

Isn't It Funny

Isn't it funny
To think about all the things that make us sad
Like losing dreams
And kisses that don't mean anything
What does it bring

Isn't it funny
To think about all the things that make us cry
Like family

And the one time that your best friend lied
What does it bring

It's time to sit down and reflect
The misdeeds you can't correct
We've all had our missteps
Our shoelaces are ragged
And our hearts are rabid
Have the faces become wood
To burn if you could
You won't say goodbye though you should
The fire will pass by where you stood
It's an opportunity and it's good
But it's hotter than what you're prepared to do
It's a realization
As you stare into the bayou
That you must lower your expectations

And I've seen that
It brings hardship at such a fast clip
It's broken pride it's a busted lip
See the wheelchair is your new bridle and horse bit
So how will you control yourself at this high idle
When the words you say don't fit
And the motion in your legs is nonexistent
Would you say boredom is an emotion you feel
But can't vent
The memories sealed and vacant
Friends you can't remember
Nor how the time's spent
You give in easy now like rag doll, it seems to be the only constant

I am a chauffeur
This life is over
Drive where you want to
I can't take you there

Your arms hurts when you twist
An even the best docs and psychiatrists can't
Help answer why me why this
They still think ignorance is bliss
Did you tell them all the things that you missed

That your life is over
And the chauffeur's been thrown out
With golf clubs and baseball gloves
You can't get out of the dugout
You hit a home run and try to laugh
You see the ball and then zone out

And it's your favorite thing to watch the weather channel
Wrapped in your best flannel
Your eyes void you can't handle the honest precipitation or its sting
What does the rain promise
What does the pain bring
Forever a doubting Thomas, you begin to ask yourself about everything

Boring Country Song

Just another boring country song
Just another song about you and me
What about those big tears
Doesn't make you happy

Just another plot goes on and on
Just another love with too much history
What about King Lear
Doesn't drive you crazy

Just another boring country boy
Just another soul whose feet are dirty
What about the big tears
Doesn't make you happy

Just another rabbit from my hat
Just a magician whose tricks are lazy
What about the smoke and mirrors
Hasn't fooled you lately

But you'll probably never hear it anyway
If you heard my voice would my tenor be ok
I never took a lesson in my life
Not confessing to you that you were right

You don't listen to country
You don't wear boots on Sunday

You don't understand sweet tea
Then why do I find it crazy
That you like me

Have Me

You can't have diamonds made of gold
You can't stop from getting old
You can't put everyone you've loved into a single car and
You can only go so far

You can't have 700 wives
You can't decide who lives or
Why the universe exploded

You can't have constant happiness
You can't rebuild forgotten bliss
Or mountaintops, eroded

When I walked into your room
I was so scared that you would see
All the nervousness surrounding me

But now I know I was the fool
For starting every single
Sentence in my head with "we"

You can't have everything you want
Or even sometimes what need
Even if you need it desperately

But, apple blossom, if I could
I'd carve a shuttle out wood
And fly us out beyond the breeze

All alone except for stars
I would wonder how you are
The most beautiful of things

But you can have me
But you deserve to see the way you want to be
But I have fallen

When We Are Both Cats

I asked my girl:
Baby do you love me true
Do you love me like the ocean loves the blue
She rolled over and then she stopped me in my tracks
It'll be revealed some day when we are both cats

I blinked my eyes
And considered a reply
Hey baby, do you think you could clarify
When she said the words again, I wasn't sure how to react
It'll be revealed some day when we are both cats

So I asked my girl
What that meant about our past
All those times you told me that our love would last
Did you love me then or was all of that an act
It'll be revealed some day when we are both cats

So I walked outside
Because I needed some fresh air
Went out driving, caught a movie, cut my hair
But no matter where I went all her words kept coming back
It'll be revealed some day when we are both cats

And then when I came home
The bird had spread her wings
She evacuated all her little things
Just a little note to the mantle was attached
We will meet again someday when we are both cats
We will meet again someday

Whaling Vessel

My skin is made of the softest oils
Does this make me a factory
My fins that take me through the sea
Bounty of a royal man
That's trying to get the best of me
On his whaling vessel

My skin is made of the softest oils

Destined for the big city
My tail is a gray origami
Bounty of a royal man
Who's trying to get the best of me
On his whaling vessel

A thousand miles beside the rails
And then I'm gone before they set the sails on me
In their whaling vessel

A man is a fish that lost his scales
Does that make him a lesser thing
Tired of land where he is king
Nothing noble in the art
Of trying to get the best of me
On his whaling vessel

A man is a fish that lost his scales
Does that make us family
Does he face me honestly
Driven by a frail sense of
Sharing ancient memories
On his whaling vessel

What Does It Mean

What does it mean when you stay silent?
Is that just shyness, or have you implied that
It's the end of our life together?

Baby, you were meant for me but
Maybe I act differently from
How you expected me to be

What does it mean when you cry
When I describe how your root beer eyes stab me with
Little tiny knives of longing in my mind?

It seems there could be two explanations:
They could be joyful tears or they could employ your fears of
Facing the shame of saying you'd rather he be here

Well you came on to me so I went to you

But if I knew then that I'd still be this into you
Would I have been so unkind to you
Taken your time from you?
I don't think so
I don't know but
I don't think so

What does it mean when you say "ok goodbye"
After I say I love you one million times
Into the phone line when each little chat has died?

Why does it feel like you've got ice for arms?
Oh yeah, it's cool girl, yeah I'm busy too, girl
We'll touch base soon, sure, but I've really got a ton of work to do alone

Baby we were meant to be but
Maybe we are not the same as
How you envisioned we would be

And baby you mean everything to me but
I have seen the reasons now and
I think you should probably leave

One More Ring

My room is a museum
A lifetime of my work
I am the last Mohican
I stand proud although I'm hurt
I keep a cup of secrets
From which I never drink
I am an ancient king
Who sits proud but never thinks

So if I find one more ring of yours
Mixed up among my things
I just might sell all my belongings
To make sure I've cut all my strings

And if I find one more note
Crumpled up inside my coat
I'm moving back to Carolina
Where I'll live out on the coast

I have a box of trinkets
I count them one by one
Each one is a keepsake
From a war that I have won
I have a daily schedule
A comfortable routine
Watch months roll by with pleasure
Like girls walking down the street

I lost all my ambition
Could've settled for less
But if I can't have you
I don't care about the rest

And if I find one more strand of black hair
Under my night stand

Escalators

If I lay down
On an escalator
Would you step on me
Just a rug
Tired of hugs and relaxation
I've given up
On my autobiography
Cold coffee and a pillow
Days that feel slow
Are enough for me

If I gave in
To the corporate tactics
Would you say that I
Jeopardized
All that I once believed in
Has come untied
Teddy, I cannot "speak softly"
Cold coffee and a pillow
Days that feel slow
Are enough for me

Do you ever think about the future

What holds those invisible sutures together
Is the doctor in
Whatever happened to spontaneity
That's my deity
And I'm in charge of me
Let's see how far we can walk with our eyes closed
Each step raises the bar of uncertainty
But fortunately
Our feet are wheels that ride the maze
That is my life my hours my days

Let's take the escalator up
We've been living in a cup that's china-made
I drank the Kool-Aid
I paid too much for
And more is just a bore
Of plastic happiness
Let's get rid of the rest of this
Twist yourself to hear the truth
Your laundry list is so uncouth
Of the things been checked off
Forgotten or left off
And all the lights you never turned off
And I'm the man who pays
That is my life my hours my days

If I lay down
Would you pick me or
Would you step on me

We're out of toilet paper again
All this talk about the end is eating me up
Would you please shut up
We've had enough
Of the apocalypse
And its making me sick and I cannot predict
The ending of my favorite show
Or was it a book in slow motion
Like Captain Cook on the Indian Ocean
Eaten alive and great history lies in you and I
And I think that's ok

Thank You

Forget about the ones who let you down
But remember to stay gracious for the ones who stuck around

Thank the ones around you, if you win
But believe in yourself even if your own mother begins to doubt you

And take everyone you love, and write them down
You might not want to tell all of them because that could weird some people out
But let them know you care, somehow

Now hold the one you love in both your hands
Apologize for what you did, and he will understand
And if he doesn't, well fuck him, you've done all you can

But I just want to say thank you
For all the time that you stayed by my side
What a wonderful feeling to feel like everything is right
What a wonderful feeling to know that everything is fine

Keep your family close
Because when you get in trouble they'll be the last to lose their hope

Say your prayers every night
They don't have to be to God, it just helps to sort your thoughts
And you never know, they might be right

Now if I died tomorrow, would you say nice things
Or would you tell the truth even if it sounds a little mean
So if I'm remembered, I'm remembered realistically?

But if there's something that you want with all your heart
That you want so much, it's tearing you apart
Well don't try to kill the fire, it has to go out on its own