

## Prayer Without Words

Mary Gauthier

Packing vagabond visions and a dream drenched hunger for a home  
Swaddled in road dirt, blood stained blankets and poems  
On a stormy suitcase Sunday I awakened to the scream of the birds  
They held their high notes and offered prayer without words

Sinking in asphalt, speechlessness and what could of been  
Surrounded by strangers, scarred stars, stoned broken men  
Riding the narcotic night, 'til she swerved and smashed into the curb  
Morning spilled from the wreckage and offered prayer without words

Chains on the mast pull the past, nothing lasts but nothing ever ends  
I leave town, break new ground, break down, leave town again  
Trapped in the circle, anchored to the weight of the world  
Under shooting stars that sink the skies and offer prayer without words

Justice rides with jaundiced eyes, jaded judges bleed the broken bench  
Liberty's a homicide, she been flogged to death with money's monkey wrench  
Desperado apostates set fire to every holy word we've heard  
Silence billows from the burning book and offers prayer without words

Surrender, that sweet cleaning girl, folds white flags in Hall of Mirrors Square  
She can't remember where she's been, one day I'm gonna join her there  
Unpack my battered traveling case, hang out a sign that says "Do Not Disturb"  
Dissolve into a dreamless sleep that offers prayer without words