

## American Middle Class

Angaleena Presley

tear this poorhouse down when you know how to build it back,  
hammer and nail between your heart and your hometown  
'til you can carry this country on your back

mama glued the Keds sign on the back of my little white shoes  
daddy never crossed the picket line, it was hard but we made it  
through  
only had one little pair of stonewashed jeans with a label on t  
he back  
i'm a product of the never give up American middle class

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i got my education at a school they could afford  
scholarships went to the rich and the grants went to the poor  
so i stood behind the little downtown bar for spending money, b  
ooks, and gas  
to be a certified member of the work too much American middle c  
lass

now daddy can't get his pension or Social Security  
worked thirty damn years in a coal mine feeding welfare familie  
s  
struggle hard and hide it well, you sure ain't rich and you sur  
e as hell ain't poor enough to get one little break  
'cause everything would collapse  
without the hardworking God-  
loving members of the American middle class

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