

# Animal

Ani DiFranco

More and more there is this animal  
Looking out through my eyes  
At all the traffic on the road to nowhere  
At all the shiny stuff around to buy  
At all the wires in the air  
At all the people shopping  
For the same blank stare  
At america the drastic  
That isolated geographic  
That's become infested with millionaires

When you grow up surrounded  
By willful ignorance  
You have to believe  
Mercy has its own country  
And that it's round and borderless  
And then you have to grow wings  
And rise above it all  
Like there  
Where that hawk is circling  
Above that strip mall

More and more there is this animal  
Looking out through my eyes  
Seeing that animals only take from this world  
What they need to survive  
But she is prowling through all the religions of men  
Seeing that time and time and time again  
Their gods have made them  
Special and above  
Nature's law  
And the respect thereof

And I think when you grow up surrounded  
By willful ignorance  
You have to believe that mercy has its own country  
And that it's round and borderless  
And then you just grow wings  
And rise above it all  
Like there where that hawk is circling  
Above that strip mall

Ask any eco-system  
Harm here is harm there  
And there and there  
And aggression begets aggression  
It's a very simple lesson  
That long preceded any king of heaven  
And there's this brutal imperial power  
That my passport says I represent  
But it will never represent where my heart lives  
Only vaguely where it went

Cuz I know when you grow up surrounded  
By willful ignorance  
You learn that mercy has its own country  
And that it's round and borderless

And then you just grow wings  
And rise above it all  
Like there  
Where that hawk is circling  
Above that strip mall