

## Hymns for the Heathen

Cursive

Night has draped its cape of stars  
Over our small town  
From the campus and the tavern  
To the chapel and infirmary  
We've seen their dreams  
We've found the goods  
The fables and folly  
Of the residents residing in...

14 hymns for the heathen  
First hymn, the son of God complex  
Second hymn, the prodigal damsel  
Third hymn, the tree stump of knowledge  
Choking on Adam's apple

This odd lot under the cross  
This broken promised land  
Of dreamers and schemers  
And preachers and predators.  
They shall not want  
What they've got coming to them  
Whether innocent or insolent

14 hymns for the heathen  
Fourth hymn, the passion of the chaplain  
Fifth hymn, the brute kiss of Judas  
Sixth hymn, Sodom falls to ashes  
Seventh hymn, the church of doubting Thomas  
Eighth hymn, a horse of the apocalypse  
Ninth hymn, an immaculate exception  
Tenth hymn, the demons of Mary Magdalene

I am a chapel, this is prayer book, these are the parables  
God, forgive us, this is our business:  
absolving sins of all of these heathens

Eleventh hymn, the Bible Belt tightens  
Twelfth hymn, a lecherous Shepard  
Thirteenth hymn, hiding in confession  
Fourteenth hymn, an afterword

Rocking chairs of disenchantment  
Green grass of envy and malice  
Our salad days, living in Happy Hollow