

# Bought And Sold

Dar Williams

Well we're heading for a past that you leave not defend  
Where the downtowns hold the sadness of you can't go back again

It's there you'll find the rust and debtors  
Motel signs with missing letters  
Cause there's a monster on the outskirts  
Says it knows what your town needs  
Then it eats it up like nothing and it won't spit out the seeds  
And we can be the super shoppers  
We can say we're really smart  
We can say our town is doing fine without a beating heart

We can even say the money saved is all our own  
It's bought and sold, it's bought and sold  
And we're heading for a nasty business, keeps our country growing  
Where the weapons that we're selling are the only seeds we're sowing

You get to blow the fruits of all your labors  
Sell F-16's to all the neighbors  
And we know that it's for money  
And that's how the west gets bargained  
You the know the last time this happened  
Even Vietnam got jargoned  
And you can say they're out to hunt you  
You can say they're out to fish you  
You can join a gang of restless boys  
Or start your own militia  
You can even say your violence is all your own  
It's bought and sold, it's bought and sold  
Well I look up to the people who are less bought than I

You can show them what you're selling  
And they'll only ask you why  
And their paychecks don't have lots of zeros  
They're my friends and they're my heroes  
And the TV sets are angry 'cause they just can't make 'em pay  
But I like the way these people read the signs and walk away

And we can call ourselves the makers  
And the keepers of the times  
We can spend our sand dollars  
And sand nickels and sand dimes  
We can even say prosperity is all our own  
It's bought and sold, it's bought and sold  
We can even say our loneliness is all our own  
It's bought and sold, it's bought and sold  
It's bought and sold, it's bought and sold