

Miracle Row

Janis Ian

Maria lives on Miracle Row
She tells fortunes, you know
At a dollar a throw

Every pimp and every gigolo
Has made love in the afternoon
To the lady by the windowsill

Five healthy children
And a home of your own
Back on Miracle Row
They all will follow the show

Soap operas in the afternoon
And the old ladies swear
At the sun like a sauna
On the tenement stair

All the boys play the conga
Theres a chill in the air
And yes, theyre gonna break out of here

TV in the summer heat
Talk show hard to beat
'Til she hits the street

Ripping pavement underneath her heels
With the poetry of motion in chains
And the lady by the windowpane

Five healthy children
And a home of your own
Back on Miracle Row
They all will follow the show

Love interest in the afternoon
And the old man swoon
And the sun gets hotter
Someone mumbles a tune

And the young men spot her
Running up to the room
And yes, they've gotta get out of here soon

Five healthy children
And a home of your own
Back on Miracle Row
They all will count on the show

Soap opera in the afternoon
The old ladies swear
At the boys playing the conga
On the tenement stair

And the sun is like a sauna
Theres a chill in the air
And yes, theyre gonna break out of here

Oh Maria, your eyes are like
A [unverified] lover's child
And lips of velvet who held an invitation
Every time you smiled

You sucked me in, I must admit
That I was waiting for a sign
Won't you, leave me on the corner by the light?
Because Im stepping out tonight

Oh Maria, I envy any man who knows your name
The ones I knew you, well, Im not ashamed
To be the one who drags you down, your life is like a movie

Like a star it's pasted up in subway walls
Wont you leave me something sacred when you fall?
Unless theres nothing left at all

Your lips are like a faded Spanish rose
And every movement strikes a pose
On every technical enclose

And other women show their teeth
And schoolboy husbands pack and leave
And empty lovers search the streets

Maria, convince me in the night she know the way
Though every lover brings another scream into the light of day

Wont you leave me by the lamppost
In the haze of your perfume night fades away?
Wont you leave me by the lamppost
In the haze of your perfume night fades away?