

## Blue Poles

Patti Smith

Mother, as I write, the sun dissolves  
Blood life streaming, 'cross my hand  
And these words, these words  
Hope dashed immortal hope  
Hope streaking the canvas sky

Blue poles infinitely winding  
As I write, as I write  
Blue poles infinitely winding  
As I write, as I write

We joined the long caravan  
Hungry, dreaming, going west  
Just for work, just to get a job  
And we never got lucky

We just forged on, and the dust  
The endless dust, like a plague  
It covered everything  
Hal fell, with the fever  
And mother I did, what I could

Blue poles infinitely winding  
As I write, as I write  
Blue poles infinitely winding  
As I write, as I write

We prayed, we prayed for rain  
I never wanted, to see the sun again  
All my dresses, you made by hand  
We left behind, on the road,  
Hal died, in my arms  
We buried him, by the river

Blue poles infinitely winding  
As I write, as I write  
Blue poles infinitely winding  
As I write, as I write, I write