

Whirl Away

Patti Smith

Hello friend, I've come a callin'
Passively stationed, active patrol
Slidin' in at high noon like some reluctant sheriff
Not wanna get involved in it all

Who stands guard for each other?
Why must we guard anything at all?
Anything at all

From the earth's four corners the people are calling
Forming equations but the questions are hard
All men are brothers, killing each other
And Mother Earth is wringing in wonder

Who stands guard for each other?
Oh, why must we guard anything at all?
Anything at all

Whirl away now
Whirl away now
Whirl away now
Whirl away

There's a cross on the road, there's a great mill turnin'
Some seeking answers, some born to dancers
You can hold on the blade and turn around forever
Be flung into space into another kind of grace

Who stands guard for each other?
Oh, why must we guard anything at all?
Anything at all

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Give ...
Some giveth their hand
Some giveth their land
Some giveth their life

You lay in the fields of grain, the staff of life all around you
But yet you, you will cut someone down
For their possessions, some material thing
And our children they're being blown away like wishes in the wind

For the sake of their coat
Or the colors of their coat
Or the color of their skin
Or the name on their shoes

And the mother cries
"Why they taken my son?"
And the father wonders
"Are they taking my boy?"

He extended his hand
He gave them his land
He gave them his bread
He gave them his heart

Said, "Hello friend"
Hello friend
Hello friend
Hello friend