

# The Roadblock

Stan Ridgway

News travels fast in a small desert town  
So it wasn't long at all before the word got around  
That a killin' mad car was headed their way  
So the sheriff and the boys were gonna stop him  
Out on the highway  
Right where it intersected big black rock  
So it wasn't long at all  
Before the whole town was out standin' 'round  
Hammerin' a nail and buildin' up a pride  
In a roadblock  
The mayor's wife sat in the shade  
And talked her way through a few good lies  
While her husband practiced his acceptance speech  
For a medal from the F.B.I.  
And Granny rocked back in her chair and said,  
"Just what did this man do?"  
While some idiot kids from school  
Ate the dirty sno-cones colored red, white and blue  
At the roadblock  
Then the local paper jumped the gun  
And printed the big headline  
"Town is saved from killer car with roadblock at stateline"  
Three miles down the highway in a Chevy '69  
Were a pair of crazy eyeballs  
Jumpin' left and right in time  
To an eight track tape playin' Foghat and Jethro Tull  
And a gasoline soaked hand shiftin'  
A little plastic skull  
And on the arm a blue tattoo that read  
"I'm a son of a bitch"  
A map open on the front seat  
Leather black as pitch  
One foot slammed on the gas, no shoe  
Just an argyle sock  
And that car was screamin' wild down the highway  
Like lightnin' towards the roadblock  
Then all eyes turned down the highway  
To a big cloud of smoke  
And Granny went into a mild state of shock and started to choke  
And then a boy up in a tree yelled out, "Here he comes..."  
Then twenty men strong aimed and fired point blank  
Nineteen shotguns...  
Well the next day the sheriff just tried to stall  
While they buried the body out behind a wall  
The newspaper said, "Killer still on the lam  
Seems the boys at the roadblock shot the wrong man  
Nobody really knew just who he was  
He was drivin' a Camaro with dashboard fuzz  
They all burned the car right there at big black rock  
And no one ever said a word at all again  
About a roadblock