

# The Mercy Beat

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There's a high wind blowin'  
And the stars are shinin' bright  
Oh what a night this is gonna be  
I think I'll let the world sleep without me  
I got one eye open, one eye closed  
And my thin body's tremblin'  
Beneath the bedclothes  
My heart's beatin' against the roof of my mouth  
It's almost time to get out of this house

I got one hand on the radio  
And one hand on the wheel  
I got my right foot on the floorboards  
I'm preparin' to kill or be killed

There's a high wind blowin'  
And the stars are shinin' bright  
And the rain upon the tarmac  
Helps me sail through the traffic lights  
I'm headin' down to the dock of the bay  
To feel the power of the waves  
I'm gonna move up close to that wind  
And wrestle with the thoughts  
Solitude always brings

Y'see I'm stuck between hell  
And the deep blue sea  
And I know that water's sucked under  
Better men than me  
I was just another Western guy  
With desires that couldn't be satisfied  
One day I asked the angels for inspiration  
But the Devil bought me a drink  
And he's been buying them ever since!

He's had the liquor on my tongue  
Feel like the sea upon the sand  
He's had me signing confessions  
From this shaking hand  
He's had me strugglin' to hang onto hope  
Like a drunken sailor in a tugboat  
With a bottle of vodka in my overcoat  
And my dog eared bible lost overboard

Y'see he tricked me into temptation  
So I've tricked him into this confrontation  
I never said I was the man I appeared to be  
Not the flesh wrapped 'round the bones of necessity  
Or the soul on fire scribblin' thoughts for posterity

I'm gonna have little Lucifer runnin' off to Purgatory  
With his tail between his legs  
I'm gonna teach him a lesson  
He ain't ever gonna forget  
All the vultures and crows  
Are fixin' up some tombstones  
But they won't be chewin' the meat off my bones

There's a high wind blowin'  
And the stars are shinin' bright  
Me and Him are gonna have a little knife fight  
In the bowels of the big city skyline  
Oh, this feeling inside runs dark and deep  
Tonight my heart's not thumpin' a mercy beat

Yeah, I was just another western guy  
With desires that couldn't be satisfied  
Oh, what a night this is gonna be  
The world can sleep without me  
The world can sleep without me  
The world can sleep without me