

# Livin' the Street Life

Tom Paxton

When I left my home behind me  
And I heard that screen door slam  
I fell that no one knew me  
And that no one gave a damn  
Always scrappin' with my momma  
Always fightin' with my old man  
We had one hard fight too many  
So I packed my bags and ran  
Yeah, I headed for the city  
Where the knock-down people go  
Where the lights are on till morning  
And it's anything but slow  
So I fell in with some strangers  
And the first thing that they done  
Was to take my leather jacket  
And then kick my head for fun  
And it's hard, hard  
Livin' the street life  
Sleepin' in doorways wrapped in cardboard  
Gettin' sicker day by day  
Yes, it's hard, hard  
Livin' the street life  
And I wish I had some way of gettin' away  
I met up with a kid named Luis  
And he knew his way around  
He knew ev'ry inch of the subway  
And his life was underground  
He was very hard on people  
Who would work from nine to five  
But he sold his body to them  
And he called it stayin' alive  
When it's cold and wet and lonely  
It can hurt you really bad  
And you think about the family  
That you never really had  
With a hunger in your belly  
And a fever startin' to burn  
You've got the freedom of the city  
But you've got nowhere to turn  
'Cause it's hard, hard  
Livin' the street life  
Sleepin' in doorways wrapped in cardboard  
Gettin' sicker day by day  
Yes, it's hard, hard  
Livin' the street life  
And I wish I had some way of gettin' away  
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But it's hard, hard  
Livin' the street life  
Sleepin' in hallways wrapped in cardboard

Gettin' sicker day by day  
Yes, it's hard, hard  
Livin' the street life  
And I wish I had some way of gettin' away  
Gettin' away (Gettin' away)  
Gettin' away (Gettin' away)  
Gettin' away (Gettin' away)  
Gettin' away (Gettin' away)  
Gettin' away  
Gettin' away  
(Hard, hard, hard)  
(Hard, hard, hard)