

# Ancient Highway

Van Morrison

There's a small cafe on the outskirts of town  
I'll be there when the sun goes down  
Where the roadside bends  
And it twists and turns  
Every new generation  
And I'll be praying to my higher self  
Don't let me down, keep my feet on the ground

There's a roadside jam playin' on the edge of town  
In a town called Paradise near the ancient highway  
When the train whistle blows  
All the sadness that Hank Williams knows  
And the river flows  
Call them pagan streams and it spins and turns  
In a factory in a street called Bread in East Belfast  
Where Georgie knows best  
What it's like to be Daniel in the lion's den  
Got so many friends only most of the time

When the grass is high and the rabbit runs  
Though it's talkin' to you and I  
And every new generation comes to pay  
The dues of the organ grinder jam  
And the grinder's switch of the sacrifice  
Everybody made to be rational with understanding  
And I'll be praying to my higher self  
Oh, don't let me down, keep my feet on the ground

What about all the people living in the nightmare hurt  
That won't go away no matter how hard they try  
They've got to pay time and time again, time and time again  
I'll be praying to my higher self  
And I'll be standin' there, where the boats go by  
When the sun is sinking way over the hill  
On a Friday evening when the sun goes down  
On the outskirts of town, I want to slip away  
I want to slip away, got to get away  
And I'll be praying to my higher self  
Don't let me down, keep my feet on the ground, don't let me down

You'll be cryin' again, you'll be cryin' again, you'll be cryin' again  
By the same wipe the teardrops from your eyes  
Have to slip away in the evening when the sun goes down  
Over the hill, with a sense of wonder  
Everything gonna be right on a Friday evening  
All the cars go by all along down  
The ancient highway  
And I'll be praying, I'll be praying to my higher self  
Don't let me down, keep my feet, keep my feet on the ground  
Keep my feet on the ground

Traveling like a stranger in the night, all along the ancient highway  
Got you in my sights, got you on my mind  
I'll be praying in the evening when the sun goes down  
Over the mountain, got to get you right in my sight  
As the beams on the cars from the overpass  
On the ancient highway shine like diamonds in the night

Like diamonds in the night  
I'll be praying to my higher self, to my higher self  
Don't let me down, don't let me down

And you'll be standing there, while the boats go by  
While the boats go by on a Friday evening  
Shining your light, shining your light on a Friday evening  
Got to slip away, got to slip away down that ancient highway  
In a town called Paradise, in a town, in a town  
All along, all along that road, all along that road,  
All along that road with the trance like vision

I'll be praying to my higher self, don't let me down, don't let me down  
Keep my feet on the ground, keep my feet on the ground,  
Keep my feet on the ground  
Friday evening got to slip away  
Watching the view from a car from the overpass  
And we're driving down that ancient road  
Shining like diamonds in the night, oh diamonds in the night  
All along the ancient highway  
Got you in my sight, got you in my mind  
Got you in my arms and I'm praying, and I'm gonna pray  
I'm gonna pray, to my higher self, ah don't let me down  
Don't let me down, give me the fire, ah give me the fire