

## Yellow Sign

On a November day in an east end cafe  
There's a fight kicking off to the right of me  
'Well I've half a mind to hurt you' he cries  
'But I don't want the world and his wife to see'

And he's dragged that girl outside  
With his arms around her  
There's a yellow sign  
Where they found her

'Cos there was some other man she'd hit on  
Now she's barely alive  
What a secret to try and sit on  
One you know you shouldn't have to hide

It's a year to the day since they put him away  
He's down for a ten-stretch at best  
And she goes every week just to hear her lover speak  
But there's the one thing he can't get off his chest

And then she forced his hand  
Showed him a letter  
She said 'I hope you sent my love  
When you met her'

'Cos there was some other girl he'd hit on  
Yeah he's as guilty as sin  
What a secret to try and sit on  
When you've nothing you can keep it in

And if ever they meet when he's back on the street  
Who knows if the cafe will still be there  
And will she still believe in that sinner's reprieve  
That in love as in war that all is fair?

If all he's on is his best behaviour  
And she's holding her tongue  
They can clear up the bad blood later  
For now they'll sit and watch it run  
For now they'll sit and watch it run

## **Pheasant**

If only you knew what I wouldn't do to get you alone  
If only I'd given drinking a miss and toddled off home  
I'm not the type to tell you it's time  
That our lives and our legs became intertwined  
But you flatten me like a pheasant on a country lane

We met in a foreign hotel reception as summer returned  
There in the midst of sunbathing Brits determined to burn  
I made conversation, melted the ice  
I quoted and quipped and I tried to be nice  
Cos you flattened me like a pheasant on a country lane

Seven years down the line still I've not said a thing  
But we're not in the sticks and I'm not giving in  
Not tonight, no, until I know one way or the other

The last time we spoke we stood and we smoked while we should've slept  
I'd broken the silence along with the one resolution I'd kept  
'I'm already taken' you'd said in reply  
I dithered and spat an awkward goodbye  
Still you flatten me like a pheasant on a country lane  
You know you flatten me like a pheasant on a country lane

## **Station Road**

As we face the snow, two of us and all of them  
The place we once called home stirs to let us in again  
Walked up to the Station Road, we were flecks of blue on white  
Saw in you how we had changed and I flinched at the sight

Standing in the cold  
Out on Station Road  
This isn't home

Just another room and I'm so maudlin I'm ashamed  
The place we once called home doesn't look or sound the same  
The pictures and the clothes are here, it's as if somebody died  
Throw the whole lot out for him 'cos he's not here to decide

Standing in the cold  
Out on Station Road  
This isn't home

Standing in the cold  
Out on Station Road  
We're all set to go  
This isn't home

**Oh Dear, Rue The Day** (Trad. arr. Sam Carter)

Oh dear rue the day that ever I married  
How I wish I was single again  
All this weeping and wailing  
And rocking the cradle  
Rocking a baby that's none of my own

Well I am a young man from the town of Ciandra  
I married my old woman to comfort me home  
But now she just leaves me  
And she cruelly deceives me  
And she leaves me with a baby that's none of my own

Well while I'm at work then she's out on the rantan  
She's out on the rantan with the other young boys  
But how she just leaves me  
And she cruelly deceives me  
And she leaves me with a baby that's none of my own

So all of you young men who are fixing to marry  
Take care that you leave all the flash girls alone  
Or by the lord harry if the one you should marry  
Should leave you with a baby that's none of your own

Oh dear rue the day that ever I married  
How I wish I was single again  
All this weeping and wailing  
And rocking the cradle  
Rocking a baby that's none of my own, none of my own, none of my own

## **Captain**

Captain's in the front seat underneath his cap  
Papers and tobacco rest in his lap  
And he's humming an old Creedence song  
We're hurtling down the A1  
On the way to Leicester to play another show  
He sits behind the faders and drinks 'cos he knows  
When Monday comes if all goes to plan  
He's up at dawn and back in the van

And he'll drive into the night chasing the red tail lights  
And he'll drive into the night, there he'll witness dawn's first light  
There he'll witness dawn's first light

We played until eleven, my hands were getting sore  
The ones who stayed to listen cheered for one more  
And the soundman, he beamed through the crowd  
The encore was three times as loud  
Homeward on the backroad, the captain's in a state  
He's up for work tomorrow, I tell him it's late  
He turns to me and stifles a yawn  
'While you sleep I see every dawn'

And he'll drive into the night chasing the red tail lights  
And he'll drive into the night, there he'll witness dawn's first light  
There he'll witness dawn's first light

## **Dew**

Something left with you that morning while the dew was on the ground  
And without so much as asking you turned feelings into sound  
Let's remember there's an ending even though we've just begun  
We'll make cliché's out of living in the only way we can

I don't care for words this morning while the dew is on the ground  
And without so much as asking I'll turn feelings into sound

## **Fight**

Lord, this is not my day  
Lying in wait for change  
When it comes I'll be waiting still  
When it comes I'll pass it by  
Leave it out

I'm meant to be a man  
But the feelings are out again  
I will fight not to have to win  
I will fight not to have  
Have to win

## Hired Hands

I was standing in the hallway on a bright December morning  
Cursed the late-running postman as a letter struck the floor  
I ran a finger down the seal of the envelope as I was yawning  
'As from the New Year you don't work here anymore'

That's all the thanks I'll get for fifteen years of blood and sweat  
You've underhandedly had the best of me

You were clearing your name when it all backfired  
You placed the blame in the hands you hired  
As you required somebody suffered and that's not right  
That's not right

So they wrote to tell us that the company's going under  
A case of unforeseen circumstances and a woefully shortsighted MD  
But the boss has kept his job and I can't help but wonder  
If he'd have acted differently with bills to pay and kids to feed

That's all the thanks I'll get unless the postman's gone and lost the cheque  
While you've shiftily had the best of me

You were clearing your name when it all backfired  
You placed blame in the hands you hired  
As you required somebody suffered and that's not right  
That's not right

You were clearing your name when it all backfired  
You placed the blame in the hands you hired  
As you required somebody suffered and that's not right  
That's not right  
That's not right  
That's not right

## Taxi

Taxi taking me home for tonight I've had enough  
It's been one of those weeks, now it's raining and it's late  
Oh talk at me and fill my mind with anything but me and mine  
Candour caught me off-guard when the driver shook his head  
'Sounds like two years too long', I was shocked by what he said  
Oh how could I have spent that time on anything but me and mine?

Well it's true, I could have lied  
When you asked me if I'd seen the match tonight  
And if I knew then I'd have tried  
And I'd have bluffed for long enough to stop you  
Asking why I carry this guitar

Taxi leaving me here on the wrong side of the street  
The walk might do me some good but I'd rather be asleep  
And sleep will come and fill my mind with anything but me and mine  
Just for tonight  
Just for tonight

## **Spill Those Secrets**

I'm sleeping in my clothes tonight  
In a double bed with a cast iron frame  
And neither of us is to blame  
Oh my love  
Oh my love

Every hour the good Lord sends  
We work to save for the holidays  
Still we can't afford to curb the ways  
Of the heart  
Oh my love

Spill those secrets, don't suffer alone  
Come the morning I'll take them home  
Spill those secrets one at a time  
Come the morning they'll be with mine