

JOE GRUSHECKY – AMERICAN BABYLON

DARK AND BLOODY GROUND

This land was ours far as the eye could see
We took it from the Cherokee with a scalping knife
And a white man's disease
When the smallpox ravaged their towns
We came in and burnt them down
And took this dark and bloody ground
This dark and bloody ground
This dark and bloody ground
I took a prisoner 'cause I needed a wife
I broke her will she gave me a son I spared her life
It was a fate much worse than death
Yeah we were kissed by the devil's breath
Set down on this dark and bloody ground
This dark and bloody ground
This dark and bloody ground
We'll lay our bodies down
Put 'em six feet in the ground
And when the long cold winter ends
Oh the sun comes shinin' in
The crops will grow again
In this dark and bloody ground
They gave me three hundred dollars
Put a pen in my hand
I was drunk on corn liquor
I signed the rights away to my land
The coal company tore my homestead down
Ripped the black gold from the ground
Left a hole in this dark and bloody ground
This dark and bloody ground
This dark and bloody ground
If Jesus was born in Kentucky
They'd make him pay for his nails
Worse yet he'd have to work off his debt
Down here in this hell
Where they pay you off in company scrip
And your life it don't mean shit
Just a piece of this dark and bloody ground
This dark and bloody ground
This dark and bloody ground
I will lay my body down
Put me six feet in the ground
And when the long cold winter ends
The sun comes shinin' in
And the crops will grow again

CHAIN SMOKIN'

I'm chain smokin'
I'm tokin'
Heart's broken
Chain smokin'
I'm chain smokin'
Words spoken
Vows broken
Chain smokin'
Since you went away, chain smokin'
Since you went away, chain smokin'
Since you went away
I can stay out however late I want
I can watch all my favourite programs on TV
And I don't have to put up with your silly little laugh
Oh I wish to god that you were here to bother me
Instead I'm chain smokin'
Chain smokin'
Chain smokin'
Since you went away
I'm chain smokin'
Since you went away
I'm chain smokin'
Since you went away
I can stay out however late I want
I can watch all my favourite programs on TV
And I don't have to put up with your silly little laugh
But I wish to god that you were here to bother me
Instead I'm chain smokin'
I'm tokin'
My heart's broken
Chain smokin'
Since you went away
Chain smokin'
Since you went away

NEVER BE ENOUGH TIME

Well your mama didn't like me
So we just ran away
Got a little apartment in a hotel
Down in Brownsville way
I used to sit in the kitchen and play guitar
When night turned to day
We always thought we had something
No one could ever take away
But the time run out
And the payment's due
There'll never be enough time to forget about you
Well there'll never be enough time to forget about you

We used to lie in bed all day
And plot our destination
And talk about why you like the miracles
And I dug the temptations
But all those good times that we had
Just turned into frustration
When we made our final move
There were no hesitation
Because the time run out
And the payment's due
There'll never be enough time to forget about you
Well there'll never be enough time to forget about you

Never be enough time
The time run out
And the payment's due
There'll never be enough time to forget about you

Never be enough time to forget about you
Never be enough time to forget about you
Never be enough time to forget about you
Never be enough time to forget about you
Never be enough time
Never be enough time

AMERICAN BABYLON

A kid stole my car the other day
Broke in and drove it away
Took it for a joy ride and when he was done
Held up a liquor store with a great big gun
He said "I didn't do nothing wrong
It's just the way we live around here"
In American Babylon puttin' my protection on
Got everything I need, drugs, money, sex and greed
In American Babylon puttin' my blindfold on
In American Babylon
Well she ran out of money, she ran out of hope
She left the kids at home, went out to score some dope
The cops caught her selling it down on Broadway
The county came in and took the kids away
She said "they're better off without me"
In American Babylon puttin' my protection on
Got everything I need, drugs, money, sex and greed
In American Babylon puttin' my blindfold on
I can't tell right from wrong
In American Babylon
Who cares about the kids? (I don't)
Or what goes in their heads? (I don't)
Or if the poor are fed? (I don't)
Or if your neighbor's dead? (I don't)
I said do you really care? (I don't)
I said do you really care? (I don't)
I said do you really care? (I don't)
American Babylon puttin' my protection on
I got everything I need, drugs, money, sex and greed
In American Babylon I put my blindfold on
And I can't tell right from wrong
In American Babylon

LABOR OF LOVE

Lying here beside you
On this wonderful night
If I had but just one wish
I'd hold back the morning light
And I thank my lucky stars
For a night like this
We were bound to be together babe
I felt it all in your first kiss

It's a labour of love
I'm doin' it because I want to baby
It's a labour of love
I can feel it when you touch me baby
It's like a precious gift
Sent from up above
This labour of love
Labor of love

Now if I were a rich man
If I were a king
If I could have anything I want
I would take you for my queen
Now good things don't come easy
Sometimes there's hell to pay
If I had to do it all again
I would never change a single thing

It's a labour of love
I'm doin' it because I want to baby
It's a labour of love
I can feel it when you touch me baby
It's like a precious gift
Sent from up above
This labour of love
This labour of love

And I thank my lucky stars
For a night like this
We were bound to be together baby
I felt it all in your first kiss

It's a labour of love
I'm doin' it because I want to baby
It's a labour of love
I can feel it when you touch me baby
It's like a precious gift
Sent from up above
This labour of love
It's a labour of love

It's a labour of love
It's a labour of love
It's the power of
It's the glory of

It's a labour of love
A labour of love

It's the power of
It's the glory of
It's a labour of love
A labour of love

It's the power of
It's the glory of
It's a labour of love
A labour of love

It's the power of
It's the glory of
It's a labour of love
A labour of love

WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR

What did you do in the war now Daddy?
Did you carry a great big gun?
Did you go to the jungle?
Did you stay in school?
Were you a fortunate son?
Did you ever see Jimi or Janis?
Did you go to Woodstock, too?
What did you do in the war now Daddy?
Daddy tell me what did you do

What did you do in the war now Daddy?
Were you just like Oliver North?
Did you have a football injury to milk for all it was worth?
Did you see the Beatles on the Sullivan Show?
Did you watch them walk on the moon?
What did you do in the war now Daddy?
Daddy tell me what did you do

Well, I know it was so long ago
And your memory fades away
But were you in Ohio on that day in May?
Did you dance to the music like Sly and the Family Stone?
What did you do in the war now Daddy?
Did you go or stay at home?

What did you do in the war now Daddy?
Did you join the National Guard?
Did you give 'em hell like Vice President Quayle?
Did you burn your draft card?
Did you write any good protest songs?
Did you smoke marijuana, too?
What did you do in the war now Daddy?
Daddy tell me what did you do
Oh, what did you do Daddy?

HOMESTEAD

I was born in the corn fields of Kentucky
I moved north in '73
The war was still going strong so I found a job
Rolling steel in a foundry in Homestead

I worked beside a guy named Grzbowski
Who taught me how to keep safe
He said "there's many a man who lost the fingers from their hands"
You could wind up crippled or dead in Homestead

And the steel glowed in the white hot chambers
The furnace spit fire and smoke
And the sunlight came through the cracks in the roof
The dust was so thick you could choke

I heard all the old stories about the twelve hour shifts in the mill
And the union brothers the Pinkertons tried hard to kill
Heard about Frick and Carnegie the day the river ran red
How the union caved in, in Homestead

It was more than a job it was my family
I got married, settled down, bought a home
And in the bars down the street, in the late summer heat
You never had to feel alone

I got work tearin' those old mills down
Until there's nothing left but the sweat and blood in the ground
At night we tuck our little babies in bed
We still pray to the red, white and blue in Homestead
I'm still livin' in Homestead

COMIN' DOWN MARIA

Is this just a game we're playing, yeah
Gettin' old answers, you went on prayin'
Sometimes I think I'm too dumb to learn
Keep playin' with fire, keep getting burned
But spent my whole life waitin'
For someone just like you
The time is right, I'm not hesitatin'
Well, I'll tell you what I'm gonna do
Well I'm

Comin' down, Maria
A-comin' down, my angel eyes
Well I'm comin' down, Maria
I just got to see you tonight
(See you tonight)
(Oh, oh, oh)

You can change your plans
You can call your friend back
You won't mind when we're out alone
A little white lie never hurt nobody
Tell 'em you're sick and you're stayin' home
I know I shouldn't be calling but it seems like the right thing to do
I can't help it, I am fallen, well I'll hang up if you want me to
And I'm

Comin' down, Maria
Comin' down, my angel eyes
Well I'm comin' down, Maria
I just got to see you tonight
(Oh, oh, oh, oh)
I just got to see you
(Oh, oh)
(See you)
'Cause it's no disgrace
(No disgrace)
If we should both fall from grace (oh, listen)
So listen to my lover's prayer (whoah)
Will you tell me you'll be waitin' there
When I'm

Comin' down, Maria
Comin' down, my angel eyes
Comin' down, Maria
I just got to see you tonight
Well, I'm coming down, Maria
Comin' down, my angel eyes
Well I'm comin' down, Maria
I just got to see you tonight
Got to see you tonight
(Oh, oh, oh)
Got to see, got to see you

(Oh, oh, oh)
I just got to see you
(Oh, oh, oh, oh)
I just got to see you (see you tonight)
Just got to see you
(I just, I)
I just got to
I just got to see you
(See you tonight)
I just got to see you
(Yeah)
My, my, I just got to see you

NO STRINGS ATTACHED

So good to see you again
Do you like how much I missed you?
Don't sit so far away, my friend
Don't worry; I won't try to kiss you
Here's to our bizarre relationship
Another drink, I might start to slip

If you come around here tonight,
There'll be no strings attached
You won't owe my anything
There will be no questions asked
I just want to be near you
I just want to hear you laugh
If you come around here tonight,
There'll be no strings attached
No strings attached

I know I treated you badly
I realize that was my disgrace
Perhaps I loved you too madly
Now I know that you need some space
I won't try to smother you
Well, that's one thing that I would never do

So you can come around here tonight,
There'll be no strings attached
You won't owe me anything
There will be no questions asked
I just want to be near you
I just want to hear you laugh
If you come around here tonight,
There'll be no strings attached
No strings attached

I know you're a big girl now and you've got responsibilities
But the real truth of it is, I know you can't forget about me

I won't try to smother you
Well, that's one thing that I would never do

So if you come around here tonight,
There'll be no strings attached
You won't owe me anything
There will be no questions asked
I just want to be near you
I just want to hear you laugh
If you come around here tonight,
There'll be no strings attached
No strings attached

No strings attached
No strings attached
Yeah, you don't owe me anything
You don't owe me anything
Yeah, you don't owe me, you don't owe me anything
You don't owe me anything
You don't owe me anything
There'll be no strings attached
There won't be no
There won't be no strings attached

BILLY'S WALTZ

Left her on a mountain, way up on a hill
I promised I'd come back to get her
But I know I never will

Well, I was full of good intentions
But intentions often change
Way up on that mountain
All it ever does is rain
All it ever does is rain
All it ever does is rain
Way up on that mountain
All it ever does is rain

Well my daddy was a miner working twelve-hour shifts a day
On the night there weren't enough to eat I would hear him pray
He'd say, "Help me Sweet Lord Jesus,
Don't let the kids go hungry again"
Way up on this mountain
All it ever does is rain
All it ever does is rain
All it ever does is rain
Way up on this mountain
All it ever does is rain

ONLY LOVERS LEFT ALIVE

Daddy got a tattoo that says,
"Born to lose"
Got a motorcycle jacket
Old blue suede shoes
Thinks time won't catch him if he don't stand still
Mama tells her son, "our life is so insane
Daddy drops in to say hello and then he's gone again.
We're only left with time to kill."

You can run but you can't hide
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive

One evening when the sun is setting red in the sky
Daddy strapped on his boots and took his bike out for a ride
Hit the open highway with no thoughts of going home
After a while she grew tired of waiting and stopped expecting anything
She's forgotten how to smile and how to sing
She could never stand to be alone
She can run but she can't hide
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive

You can run but you can't hide
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive

He starts hanging with the tough guys
Because he thinks they're cool
Starts smoking and drinking and cutting school
Mama says, "He won't listen anymore
And I don't know what to do
Since his Daddy left he hasn't been the same
He's a good boy, he's just angry
He needs someone to blame
I wonder if the old man knows what he's putting us through."
Well he can run but he can never hide
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive
Somewhere there's only lovers left alive