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Bob Dylan "The Ballad Of Frankie Lee And Judas Priest"

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Well, Frankie Lee and Judas Priest They were the best of friends So when Frankie Lee needed more money one day Judas quickly pulled out a roll of tens And placed them on a footstool Just above the plotted plain Sayin', "Take your pick, Frankie Boy My loss will be your gain".

Well, Frankie Lee, he sat right down And put his fingers to his chin But with the cold eyes of Judas on him His head began to spin "Would ya please not stare at me like that", he said "It's just my foolish pride But sometimes a man must be alone And this is no place to hide".

Well, Judas he just winked and said "All right, I'll leave you here But you'd better hurry up and choose Which of those bills you want Before they all disappear" "I'm gonna start my pickin' right now Just tell me where you''ll be".

Judas pointed down the road And said, "Eternity" "Eternity ?" said Frankie Lee With a voice as cold as ice "That's right", said Judas Priest, "Eternity Though you might call it Paradise" "I don't call it anything" Said Frankie Lee with a smile "All right", said Judas Priest "I'll see you after a while".

Well, Frankie Lee, he sat back down Feelin' low and mean When just then a passing stranger Burst upon the scene Saying, "Are you Frankie Lee, the gambler Whose father is deceased ? Well, if you are There's a fellow callin' you down the road And they say his name is Priest". "Oh yes, he is my friend" Said Frankie Lee in fright "I do recall him very well

In fact, he just left my sight" Yes, that's the one", said the stranger As quit as a mouse. "Well, my message is, he's down the road Stranded in a house".

Well, Frankie Lee he panicked He dropped ev'rythimg and ran Until he came up to the spot Where Judas Priest did stand "What kind of a house is this", he said "Where I have come to roam ?" "It's not a house", said Judas Priest "It's not a house, it's a home".

Well, Frankie Lee he trembled He soon lost all control Over ev'rything which he had made While the mission bells did toll He just stood there starring At that big house as bright as any sun With four and twenty windows And a woman's face in ev'ry one.

Well, up the stairs ran Frankie Lee With a soulful bounding leap And foaming at the mouth He began to make his midnight creep For sixteen nights and days he raved But on the seventeenth he burst Into the arms of Judas Priest Which is where he died of thirst.

No one tried to say a thing When they carried him out in jest Except of course, the little neighbor boy Who carried him to rest And he just walked along alone Whit his guilt so well concealed And muttered underneath his breath "Nothing is revealed". Well, the moral of the story The moral of the song Is simply that one should never be Where ones does not belong So when you see your neighbor carryin' somethin' Help him with his load And don't go mistaking Paradise For that home across the road.

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